



ANTIGUA & BARBUDA

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NEWFIELD MAN GUILTY OF MURDER

Story on Page 2



Minister of Agriculture, E. P. Chet Greene, has committed to holding regular, in-person meetings with farmers to acquire a better understanding of their concerns so that his ministry can meet their needs, as they collectively work to increase food security for the people of Antigua and Barbuda. *Story on page 4.*

Mixed jury returns guilty verdict in murder trial

A Newfield man has been found guilty of murder in a case in which a mixed jury of seven women and two men returned their verdict after examining the evidence for approximately three hours.

Kenworth “Billy” Charles was found guilty of the murder of Fitzroy Robins following an incident in Villa on 24th July, 2020. Robins was a soldier and an immigration officer before migrating to the United States. He was later deported back to Antigua and Barbuda.

The case, heard before Justice Colin Williams, was prosecuted by lead attorney,



Shannon Jones-Gittens. The defence team was headed by Wendel Robinson who was assisted by Merrise McDougal.

The incident stemmed from the deceased man’s refusal to pay for beers he was consuming at a location on Bay Street, at which time

Robins intervened with a knife and instructed him to pay the business owner for the alcoholic beverages he took from her.

A day after on 24th July, 2020, the two men encountered each other at the same location and an argument ensued, which lead to a scuf-



Kenworth “Billy” Charles fle, at which time Kenworth Charles drew a knife and fatally wounded Fitzroy Robins by inflicting multiple stabs about his body.

Charles was arrested and charged with Robins’ murder.

The trial, which lasted more than a week, heard from several witnesses called by both the prosecution and defence teams. Among those giving evidence was a police photographer who produced as evidence forty-five photos of the crime scene. Items from the scene of the crime were also produced.

At the end of the trial, Justice Colin Williams said sentencing is set for 22nd March.

Kenworth Charles faces a maximum of life in prison for the crime. His attorney, Wendel Robinson, has already signaled his intention to file an appeal on behalf of his client, as he had hoped for the lesser charge of manslaughter to be considered. He said he will also request a social inquiry report for the court’s consideration prior to sentencing.

BARBUDA EXPRESS
ST. JOHN'S DEPARTURE

SUNDAY

AB 12:00 PM
BA 3:45 PM

MONDAY

AB 6:00 AM
BA 8:00 AM

TUESDAY TO FRIDAY

AB 7:00 AM
BA 3:45 PM

SATURDAY

AB 8:00 AM
BA 3:45 PM

TYPHOON EXPRESS

MONDAY
ST. JOHN'S DEPARTURE

AB 3:45 PM
(OVERNIGHT IN BARBUDA)

TUESDAY

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First phase of sustainable farming workshop concludes

The first two instalments of the Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Change workshop have been successfully completed.

Organised jointly by the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) and the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI), the training sessions took place this week at CARDI's facility at Betty's Hope.

The event, facilitated by CARDI representative Paul Lucas, saw over 30 farmers learn about various techniques and technological interventions, which can help to combat the effects of climate change and prolonged droughts.

"Participants were introduced to drought resistant varieties of plants and tubers such as sweet potato and cassava.

"These are varieties specially bred to survive in conditions with less water availability, where their otherwise standard varieties would not," workshop coordinator, FAO representative, Mali Barnes stated.

He said the farmers were even given free samples of these hardier plant varieties which they can grow and experiment with on their farms.

Barnes described the farmers as "very enthusias-



Shown here are some of the more than thirty participants, along with the organisers, who engaged in the Sustainable Agriculture workshop hosted by the FAO and CARDI

tic" and expressed satisfaction with the high level of participation and engagement.

The event was opened with remarks from Director of Agriculture, Gregory Bailey, who highlighted the timeliness of the workshop and the need for farmers to employ creative means to counter the impacts of climate change.

The workshop series continues on 27th and 28th February and will culminate with a final training session in Barbuda on 6th March.



Samples of drought resistant sweet potato varieties

<p>Thu 23 Day</p> <p>80° ☀️</p> <p>22% ☁️ NE 12 mph</p> <p>Sunshine along with some cloudy intervals. High near 80F. Winds NE at 10 to 15 mph.</p>		<p>Thu 23 Night</p> <p>73° ☁️</p> <p>18% ☁️ NE 11 mph</p> <p>A few clouds. Low 73F. Winds NE at 10 to 15 mph.</p>	
<p>💧 Humidity 70%</p> <p>☀️ UV Index Extreme</p>	<p>🌅 Sunrise 6:29 am</p> <p>🌇 Sunset 6:12 pm</p>	<p>💧 Humidity 77%</p> <p>☀️ UV Index 0 of 10</p>	<p>🌕 Moonrise 8:59 am</p> <p>🌑 Moonset 9:42 pm</p> <p>🌕 Waxing Crescent</p>

Agriculture minister continues interactive sessions with farmers

The series of face-to-face consultations between Minister of Agriculture, E. P. Chet Greene, and the farming community continued at All Saints Secondary School on Tuesday evening.

Accompanied by Chief Extension Officer, Owolabi Elabanjo, and Chief Plant Protection Officer, Dr. Janil Gore, Minister Greene is fulfilling his duty to engage with farmers in Antigua and Barbuda regularly.

Greene says this will allow him to better grasp, directly from the source, the challenges farmers encounter, and their concerns related to food production.

In an earlier consultation, farmers identified several common concerns. Chief among them were issues related to the supply of water and the ongoing problem of praedial larceny.

ny. “The farmers also raised a number of concerns with the minister including the issue of marketing of their produce and the ongoing problems surrounding adequate supply of water,” Elabanjo reported.

He said the minister listened attentively in what turned out to be a lively and interactive session between himself, the ministry’s technicians and the farmers.

While their concerns will not all be solved overnight, Minister Greene committed to giving the farmers the attention they deserve and promised that he will provide updates on the progress being made to address their requests directly and through the ministry’s technicians.

The next meeting will involve farmers from the



Minister of Agriculture, E. P. Chet Greene

southeast and northeast of Bethesda, St. Philip, and Antigua.

This will bring together farmers from Parham, Lodge, Pares, Glanvilles, Seatons and Willikies with their counterparts from

Bethesda, St. Philip, and Freetown.

Following tonight’s meeting, the minister will journey to Barbuda in early March to meet with farmers from there.

Government examines ways to speed-up entry processes at VCBIA



The Cabinet of Antigua and Barbuda is reviewing ways to improve the entry and departure processes at the V.C. Bird International Airport.

On Wednesday, the cabinet invited to its meeting, managers of the Antigua and Barbuda Airport Authority (ABAA), the Immigration Department, and the I.T. specialists that manage the systems which allow for a smooth flow of passengers arriving and departing at V.C. Bird

cont’d on pg 5

Another drug bust at VCBIA

There appears to be no letting up by drug peddlers who continue to push their illicit items through concealment into the country.

The latest report is of a drug interdiction at V.C. Bird International Airport on Tuesday February 21st, 2023.

A joint operation involving officers from the Narcotics and Customs Departments, along with the K-9 Unit of the Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda took place at the cargo transit shed at approximately 6pm, where five vacuum-sealed packages containing cannabis were



discovered in a brown cardboard box.

Once the packages of cannabis were transferred to police headquarters, they were weighed and totaled five pounds, with an estimated street value of EC\$30,000.

No arrests have been

made in this latest incident.

Smugglers remain relentless in their pursuit to ship cannabis into the country using the V.C. Bird Inter-

national Airport, Deep Water Harbour and the General Post Office. However, frequent joint operations have thwarted those plans.

cont' d from pg 4

International Airport.

According to the cabinet notes, the ability of the Immigration Department to deliver the full panoply of electronic services is not yet complete. The Minister responsible for Aviation, Charles Fernandez and the Minister responsible for Information Technology, Melford Nicholas, have been collaborating to produce a system to ensure the successes of the e-system.

Both have agreed to address the following:

- a. Completing the Electronic I.D. card (that will remove the need for the passenger to fill in the data which appears on the printed version of the card).
- b. Removing the face-to-face contact now required during the entry exercise.
- c. Placing kiosks in the arrival lounge to satisfy inbound passengers.
- d. Speeding-up the slower existing system for arriving and departing passengers, using the upgraded electronic system.

The Notes said it was agreed that the funding required to complete the system will come from the ABAA and the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority.

It added that the Canadian Bank Note (CBN) Company is also a collaborator in this journey, since the passports utilized by Antiguan and Barbudans are manufactured/produced by this Canadian firm.

MOE encourages full participation for Literacy Festival

The Ministry of Education, Sports and Creative Industries will host the National Literacy Festival on 2nd March, 2023.

The festival will be school-based, which will

allow for schools across Antigua and Barbuda to place emphasis on the theme “Literacy: Enriching lives and preserving our culture”.

Education Officer,

Language Arts - Desryn Collins, said the purpose of the National Literacy Festival, which is part of the Ministry’s Education Month activities, is to underscore the idea that the



literacy development of students is critical to their overall wellbeing.

“It is no secret that many of our students are struggling with literacy but a much greater number have excellent literacy skills.

“So, this festival is also an opportunity to celebrate the literacy development of students at both the primary and secondary levels of education,” Mrs. Collins added.

Secondary schools will conduct their main activities during the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, while the activities at primary schools will take place from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

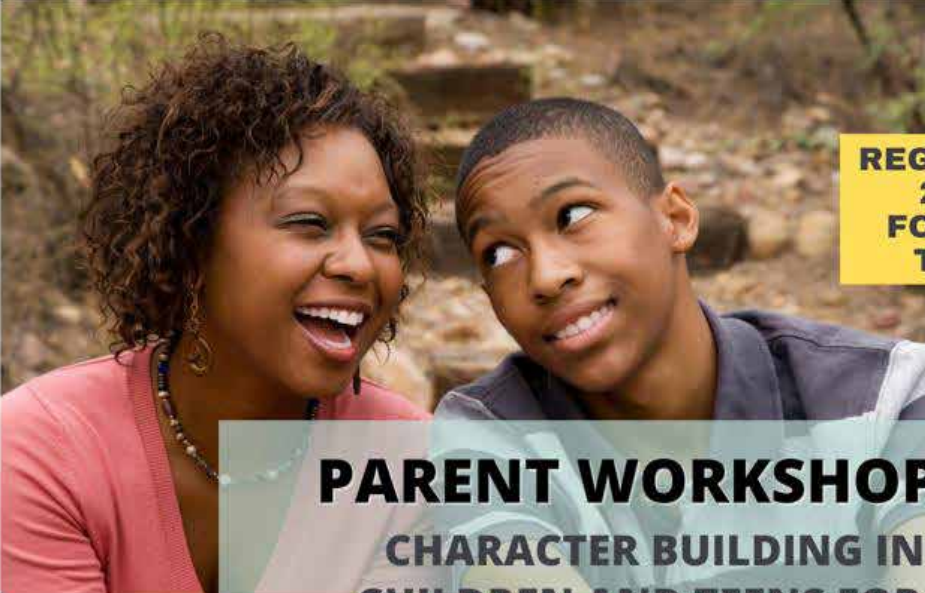
The Education Officer is inviting the general public to support the schools in the communities on this day.

All citizens are invited to find time during the day, on March 2nd 2023, to focus their attention on the activity and join in by reading anything of their choice, for at least half an hour.

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DATE AND PLACE

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Allow your body to recharge

By Micaiah Morgan

Some people find taking a break from work difficult since they are continuously in work mode. While this can make a person appear to be a hardworking employee, it also makes that individual prone to burnout.

If you're guilty of this, you must learn to take care of yourself as your body needs time to unwind, regardless of the activity. You will suffer physically and mentally if you do not allow your body to reset.

Breaks from your task will give you the energy that will result in a more successful outcome. Your body and mind require time to rest because overworking yourself will be inefficient.

Find something relaxing to do, you don't have to depend on a vacation or a day off to recharge yourself. You can try:

- listening to music
- reading a book
- watching a movie or your favourite tv show
- taking a walk outside



FLAMINGO IMAGES/SHUTTERSTOCK

spending time with family and friends

Taking a few minutes away from your task will also help you feel more at ease. You may feel guilty and worry if you would have wasted your time, but your body recognizes when it's time to rest. When you find yourself becoming exhausted and generating low-quality work as a result of overdrive, it may simply indicate you need a break.

You can improve your quality of

life when you also find time to care for yourself. Making the time may seem hard, especially with a demanding job, family, and other responsibilities, but finding the time is important.

Take a break and rest the next time you find yourself working nonstop. Make time, no matter how hectic your schedule, to reset your mind and rejuvenate your body. It can help you stay healthy and recover from the stresses of daily life.



Workplace



How shrinking teams are pushing workers to the brink

By Alex Christian

As layoffs bite, teams are becoming smaller – and fewer resources mean remaining employees are spread thin and overburdened.

As the head of marketing for a UK restaurant group, James's role was to develop its long-term strategy, steadily build its digital audience and gradually increase footfall. However, his job looked different in practice – there were never enough employees to get even the smaller, more routine tasks done, let alone focus on the job he was hired to do.

“From day one, there was a lack of numbers,” says London-based James, whose surname is being withheld for career-security concerns. “I was spread too thinly to be able to work effectively: I'd have to try and fit the big-picture strategic stuff of marketing alongside the granular day-to-day stuff.” His bosses, he says, showed little sympathy, and James often found himself working 16-hour days.

His team was so lean, hobbled by labour shortages following Brexit, pandemic-enforced lockdowns and the overall hiring crisis in the service industry, that James says even managers would often have to wait tables. And these issues also had a knock-on effect for his job: “Customers would have a bad experience at



Understaffing can create stress, anxiety and burnout for employees (Credit: Getty Images)

the venue because it was so short-staffed that it would negatively affect me as a marketer,” he says.

Lacking help daily, James's job soon became impossible. “I understand why companies want to run things with low staffing to minimise risk, particularly as hospitality is going through a very difficult period,” he says. “However, it takes a great toll on everyone involved.”

Unbearable workloads

Being on a small team doesn't mean that it's necessarily understaffed, even if work demands are high.

Some teams are simply designed to be lean, with these employees expected to be in multifaceted roles that enable them to work with limited resources. “In some cases, employees have varied skill sets that enable them to be efficient, productive and get their jobs done,” explains Deniece Maston, HR advisor at the Society for Human Resource Man-

agement (Shrm), based in Virginia, US.

But there's a significant difference between a team that's intentionally designed to be small and nimble, versus one that is resource-poor.

If workloads are no longer bearable when an employee is absent, and colleagues are suddenly thrust into performing another worker's job requirements, then it's likely to be a case of understaffing. “In these situations, employees can frequently find themselves needing to work overtime,” says Maston.

As global layoffs pick up speed, remaining employees are finding themselves on shrinking teams. And continuing economic uncertainty means many businesses are striving to do more with less, as they cut jobs and slam the recruitment brakes. For the employees still working, reduced headcounts mean they're often expected to pick up the slack, lift heavier workloads and complete

tasks beyond their job remit.

All this comes at a cost. Economic conditions may mean more workers could find themselves in understaffed workplaces and, amid broader market uncertainty, have little choice but to stretch themselves to their limits. While the work may still get done in the short term, understaffing ultimately takes a toll: creating stress, anxiety and burnout for employees, and other insidious consequences long-term.

While the work may still get done in the short term, understaffing ultimately takes a toll: creating stress, anxiety and burnout for employees, and other insidious consequences long-term.

Of course, under-resourced teams can affect output for companies. But there's a human side, too. Workers ultimately bear the brunt of understaffing, leaving them psychologically burdened on top of their already-heavy workloads. This impacts not only their job performance – something that can reflect negatively on them – but also their mental health. “Understaffing creates stress and anxiety among teams that eventually impacts the quality of work and employee wellbeing”, says Maston.

This reality hit James hard – he says it placed him in an untenable position. “I

cont'd on pg 9

Bunji Garlin wins Road March in Trinidad

CMC - The Alvarez household could now boast of yet another Road March title.

Ian Alvarez aka Bunji Garlin has won the Visit Trinidad 2023 Road March race with his runaway hit "Hard Fete".

According to official results released by the Trinbago Unified Calypsonians Organisation (TUCO), Hard Fete was the most-played song at judging points with 135 plays.

Nailah Blackman and Skinny Fabulous' "Come Home" was sec-

ond with 106 plays.

Machel Montano and Patrice Roberts' "Like Yuh Self" placed third with 50 plays.

This is Garlin's second Road March title but his first as a solo act.

His first title was in 2019 with "Famalay" in collaboration with Montano and Skinny Fabulous.

Garlin's wife Fay Ann Lyons-Alvarez holds three Road March titles.

Both Garlin and Fay Ann are credited as writers for "Hard Fete"



Bunji Garlin is the new Road March winner

cont'd from pg 8

had a choice: either work a draining number of hours, or opt for a more manageable workday that meant I'd have to deal with the stress later, knowing that not all my tasks had been completed that day."

Where to stay?

Headcount was already going down at many firms before news of cross-sector job cuts.

During the height of the Great Resignation, for instance, workers who remained were expected to pick up the slack as employees quit in droves. And while teams worked extra hard to compensate, many of the vacated positions sat open as recruiters struggled: an October 2022 survey of more than 5,100 firms by the British Chambers of Commerce showed that 76% reported difficulties recruiting staff, with 56% saying that they were operating below full

capacity as a result of hiring shortages.

Although a tumultuous labour market can create understaffed teams, employers may also create these situations, since it makes financial sense for companies to operate as lean as possible. "Executives focus on profit as the priority, and people are an expensive resource," says Kirk Chang, professor of business at University of East London. "A business wants to produce maximum revenue with minimal costs – there's a financial incentive to work round-the-clock and maximise every employee's potential."

Compared to workers, management can therefore have a different perspective on what constitutes understaffing. Bosses naturally favour employees that are proactive and push themselves to their limit, says Chang. "If a lack of manpower is flagged, a manager may re-

mind them they're paid to do a job and to maximise their potential, rather than complain."

And as employees see their colleagues cut, they can feel tacit pressure to accept a lack of resources, push through and take on heavier workloads. "An employee will immediately feel stress in this situation," says Chang.

In many instances, workers will be inclined to dig in for their own security and help their stretched colleagues.

This keeps productivity high in the short term, pleasing bosses and incentivising them to keep teams small, but it also masks the deeper understaffing issues. And while depleted resources can have immediate knock-on effects, harm can also be slow and insidious, negatively impacting a career in the long term.

Eventually, say experts,

understaffing is unsustainable: there's always a breaking point, be it the work that suffers or the worker's wellbeing. "If an employee is required to do an extra job on top of their existing workload every day, it can eventually lead to significant burnout," says Chang. "The worker will shut down and may even be forced to quit."

Despite this, current macroeconomic factors and labour-market issues mean many workers can expect to be on short-staffed teams – for the time being, at least. It's not just the companies conducting layoffs that create these situations, though. Some firms aren't cutting workers, but are instead still struggling to fill vacancies that have existed for years – keeping currently under-resourced teams stuck in the same spot.

"Understaffing may be a reality for a while," says Maston. (BBC)

Technology



Microsoft brings Bing chatbot to phones after curbing quirks

By Matt O'Brien

Microsoft is ready to take its new Bing chatbot mainstream — less than a week after making major fixes to stop the artificially intelligent search engine from going off the rails.

The company said Wednesday it is bringing the new AI technology to its Bing smartphone app, as well as the app for its Edge internet browser.

Putting the new AI-enhanced search engine into the hands of smartphone users is meant to give Microsoft an advantage over Google, which dominates the internet search business but hasn't yet released such a chatbot to the public.

In the two weeks since Microsoft unveiled its revamped Bing, more than a million users around the world have experimented with a public preview of the new product after signing up for a waitlist to try it. Microsoft said most of those users responded positively, but others found Bing was insulting them, professing its love or voicing other disturbing or bizarre language.

Powered by some of



The Microsoft Bing logo and the website's page are shown in this photo taken in New York on Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2023. Microsoft is ready to take its new Bing chatbot mainstream — less than a week after making major fixes to stop the artificially intelligent search engine from going off the rails. The company said Wednesday, Feb. 22, it is bringing the new AI technology to its Bing smartphone app, as well as the app for its Edge internet browser. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)

the same technology behind the popular writing tool ChatGPT, built by Microsoft partner OpenAI, the new Bing is part of an emerging class of AI systems that have mastered human language and grammar after ingesting a huge trove of books and online writings. They can compose songs, recipes and emails on command, or concisely summarise concepts with information found across the inter-

net. But they are also error-prone and unwieldy.

Reports of Bing's odd behaviour led Microsoft to look for a way to curtail Bing's propensity to respond with strong emotional language to certain questions.

It's mostly done by limiting the length and time of conversations with the chatbot, forcing users to start a fresh chat after several turns. But the upgraded Bing also now politely

declines questions that it would have responded to just a week ago.

"I'm sorry but I prefer not to continue this conversation," it says when asked technical questions about how it works or the rules that guide it. "I'm still learning so I appreciate your understanding and patience."

Microsoft said its new technology will also be integrated into its Skype messaging service.

Guyana: Helicopter impounded, two arrested at illegal gold mine

CMC — Police in Guyana have impounded a helicopter and detained two Brazilians after discovering two illegal mining camps at New River Triangle, South Rupununi, Region Nine.

In a statement issued late on Tuesday night, the police said that a grey Robinson 44 helicopter, with registration number PTY-MBI, was flown to Aishalton airstrip and that Alexander Felix, 54, a licensed pilot of Rua Paraiba 45 Ap 103, São Paulo, Brazil is assisting their investigations.

The other person has been identified as Luan Ricardo Braoa Silva, 29, of Belem De Para Brazil.

The police said several other men believed to be Brazilians, ran away when the security forces arrived at the illegal mining camps that were spotted during aerial surveillance on Sunday at an area in South Rupununi, Region Nine.

Police said after searching the two camps they found one brown and gold 12-gauge shotgun, ten 16-gauge cartridges, forty 12-gauge cartridges and three empty cartridge shells. Nine cellular phones and several documents were also found.

The police said after the gold mining camps were discovered, the helicopter

landed at the site, but nothing illegal had been found.

“Searches were carried out on his person and the helicopter but nothing illegal was found, except for food supplies and gas.”

Aviation Minister Juan Edghill said the Guyana Civil Aviation Authority’s (GCAA) inspector, who flew to the location on Tuesday, was expected to ascertain where the helicopter is from and to whom it is registered.



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Immigrant advocates denounce US 'Asylum Transit Ban' plan

CMC — New York immigration advocates have denounced an “Asylum Transit Ban” plan by the Joe Biden administration that would block asylum applications from Caribbean and other asylum seekers who travelled through third countries en route to the United States, but did not apply for asylum.

The New York Immigration Coalition (NYIC), an umbrella policy and advocacy organisation that represents over 200 immigrant and refugee rights groups, said this proposed rule favours more affluent asylum seekers and needlessly excludes others from the United States.

It urged the Biden administration to expand protections for all asylum seekers, including those from Haiti, Cuba and Venezuela.

“A just, humane immigration system is an important and necessary part of a healthy democracy and a growing economy,” NYIC executive director Murad Awawdeh told the Caribbean Media Corporation (CMC).

“However, the Biden administration’s proposed ‘Asylum Transit Ban’ rule is a blatant and ruthless attack on our humanitarian obligations, and the children and families seeking refuge from violence and persecution in our country.

“The transit ban cruelly favours wealthier asylum seekers coming to the United States via air travel over those who travel by foot to seek asylum at our borders. These unnecessary and arbitrary exclusions privilege some asylum seekers over others on the basis of wealth, and is a shockingly inhumane proposal from the Biden administration.

“Despite campaign promises to deliver solutions for our immigration system, President Biden is instead re-



viving discriminatory Trump-era policies that endanger people and undermine one of our proudest traditions as a welcoming nation by recycling a policy that never had a place in America’s future,” Awawdeh said.

He said the Biden administration must end this policy “once and for all but also work with Congress to reform the asylum system, so it is fair, efficient and has integrity”.

Co-director of organising Make the Road New York, Yaritza Mendez, described the proposed rule as “reckless.”

He said the move by the Biden administration would bring “further harm to asylum-seekers and violate their rights.

“We are extremely disappointed that President Biden continues to attempt to gut the asylum system and mimic the unlawful actions of the previous administration. People have the right to seek asylum; we must provide asylum seekers due process and the opportunity to have their claim heard.

“We urge the administration to immediately reverse course on this proposed policy and instead refocus

its efforts on investing to support asylum-seekers who are looking for safety and protection,” he told CMC.

The US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the US Department of Justice (DOJ) said in a joint statement on Tuesday that they were “issuing a proposed rule to incentivise the use of new and existing lawful processes and disincentive dangerous border crossings by placing a new condition on asylum eligibility for those who fail to do so.

“These steps are being taken in response to the unprecedented western hemispheric migration challenges – the greatest displacement of people since World War II – and the absence of congressional action to update a very broken, outdated immigration system.”

DHS said it continues to prepare for the lifting of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Title 42 Public Health Order, which is expected on May 11, 2023, and the return to processing all noncitizens under Title 8 immigration authorities.

“Until then, the Title 42 order remains in effect, and individuals who

cont’d on pg 13

Suriname Parliament resumes debate on budget following last weekend's violent protest

CMC — Government legislators have condemned last Friday's storming of Suriname's National Assembly with President Chandrikapersad Santokhi reiterating that those involved in the action are being tracked down and will be brought to justice.

"All institutions of the rule of law are functioning. The home of democracy has been attacked, but democracy is functioning," President Santokhi said as legislators resumed debate on the budget that had been interrupted by last weekend disturbances that resulted in several people being injured and more than 100 others arrested.

Thousands of demonstrators descended on the capital protesting against the policies of the government including the removal of subsidies on several items, including hydro and thermal energy, which the

government said will result in savings of approximately US\$10.9 million annually.

Assembly President, Marinus Bee, likened the storming of the Assembly to a tropical storm that swept through the building saying no rest period will be introduced and the budget debate will continue.

Vice President Dew Sharman noted that any action must be within the bounds of law and order, adding that the attack on the 'House of the People' cannot be justified.

Several legislators and opposition parties while supporting the protest action have condemned the looting and violence which followed, adding that such scenes must never be repeated.

"Citizens have the democratic right to express their dissatisfaction, because of the deteriorating living conditions of large parts of so-



The National Assembly is heavily guarded as legislators resume deliberations on the budget following last weekend's violent protest.

ciety. Suriname is almost no longer livable. We are sliding down every day," said Rabin Parmessar, the leader of the National Democratic Party (NDP) in the Parliament.

"Since the start of this government, there have been various friendly protests, however, it appears that the government does not pay enough attention to the needs of the people. Until the eve of the announced protest, a further fuel in-

crease was mercilessly pushed through," he added.

Parmessa has also called for a thorough investigation into the police's actions against party member Ebu Jones, even as the government maintained that the law enforcement agencies had dealt properly with the protest.

Chandrikapersad Santokhi said the organisers of the protest had been informed beforehand they would have been allowed to engage in peaceful protest.

But he said the investigations so far have shown this was not the case and as a result, all individuals involved in the "escalation" will be held accountable.

He said calm has now returned and the government is guaranteeing the safety of the citizens and the dialogue with various social groups will be intensified.

cont'd from pg 12

attempt to enter the United States without authorisation will continue to be expelled," the statement said.

Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro N. Mayorkas, said "we are a nation of immigrants, and we are a nation of laws. We are strengthening the availability of legal, orderly pathways for migrants to come to the United States, at the same time proposing new consequences on those who fail to use processes made available to

them by the United States and its regional partners".

They said the Biden administration's border enforcement measures, "which expanded safe, orderly, and lawful processes and consequences for those who do not avail themselves of these orderly processes, are working to reduce irregular migration."

They said January saw the lowest level of encounters between the ports of entry since February 2021.

Malcolm X's family plan to sue FBI, CIA, NYPD for his death

BBC — A daughter of murdered black civil rights activist Malcolm X says she is suing the New York City Police Department and other agencies for his 1965 murder.

Ilyasah Shabazz says US officials fraudulently concealed evidence that they “conspired to and executed their plan to assassinate” her father.

She announced the planned legal action at the site where he was fatally shot in New York exactly 58 years ago.

The FBI and CIA were also named in the legal filing, a lawyer said.

Mrs Shabazz, 60, was two years old when she saw her father gunned down. Three armed men shot him 21 times as he

was preparing to speak at a Harlem auditorium.

“For years, our family has fought for the truth to come to light concerning his murder,” she said on Tuesday at the venue, which has since been converted into a memorial site, as she filed notices of claims, a precursor to a lawsuit.

At the news conference, Benjamin Crump - the lawyer who is representing the family - alleged that powerful figures in the American government had conspired to kill Malcolm X.

He mentioned former FBI Director J Edgar Hoover throughout his remarks.

Mr Crump said Malcolm X's family intends to



His family announced the lawsuit at the memorial where he was killed 58 years ago.

file a wrongful death lawsuit seeking damages in the range of \$100m (£83m).

“It’s not just about the triggermen,” he said. “It’s about those who conspired with the triggermen to do this dastardly deed.”

The NYPD told the BBC it would not comment on pending litigation. The FBI and CIA did not

immediately respond to a request for comment.

Malcolm X was a lead spokesman for the Nation of Islam - which advocated separatism for black Americans - before his acrimonious split from the organisation. He was 39 when he was killed.

One man, a Nation of

cont'd on pg 15

At least two dead, more than 50 missing in China mine collapse

AP — An open pit mine collapsed in China's northern Inner Mongolia region on Wednesday, killing at least two people and leaving more than 50 missing, state media reported.

The official Xinhua News Agency said people were buried under debris at the mine in the Alxa League.

Rescuers brought out three people, two of whom showed no signs of life.

Other state media reports gave the total number of missing at 57 and said numerous vehicles were also buried in the collapse.

Inner Mongolia is a key region for mining coal and other minerals in China, which critics say has ravaged the original landscape of mountains, grassy steppe and deserts.

China overwhelmingly relies on coal for power generation, but has strived to reduce the number of deadly mine accidents through a greater emphasis on safety and the closure of smaller operations that lacked necessary equipment.

Most mining deaths are attributed to explosions caused by the build-up of methane and coal dust, or to

drownings caused when miners break into shafts that had been abandoned due to flooding.

China has recorded a slew of deadly industrial and construction accidents in recent months as a result of poor safety training and regulation, official corruption and a tendency to cut corners by companies seeking to eek out profits.

The economy has slowed, partly as a result of draconian lockdowns and quarantines imposed under the now-abandoned “zero-COVID” policy.

Germany expels two Iranian diplomats over death sentence

AP — Germany said Wednesday that it is expelling two Iranian diplomats over the death sentence imposed in Iran against one of its citizens.

Authorities in Iran announced Tuesday that Jamshid Sharmahd, a 67-year-old Iranian-German national and U.S. resident, was sentenced to death after being convicted of terrorist activities.

Iran claims Sharmahd is the leader of the armed wing of a group advocating the restoration of the monarchy that was overthrown in the 1979 Islamic Revolution, but his family say he was merely the spokesman for the opposition group and deny he was involved in any attacks.

German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock said she summoned Iran's charge d'affaires in Berlin and informed him that "we will not accept this massive breach of a German citizen's rights."

"As a consequence the German government has declared two members of the Iranian embassy unwanted persons and asked them to

leave Germany at short notice," she said. "We demand that Iran revokes the death sentence against Jamshid Sharmahd and allows him to have an appeal that is fair and in line with the rule of law."

Baerbock has said that Sharmahd, who lives in Glendora, California, did not have "even the beginning of a fair trial" and that consular access and access to the trial had been repeatedly denied. She has also alleged that he had been arrested "under highly questionable circumstances," without elaborating.

Sharmahd's family accuse Iranian intelligence of abducting him from Dubai in 2020.

The official website of Iran's judiciary said Sharmahd was convicted of plotting terrorist activities. He was tried in a Revolutionary Court, where proceedings are held behind closed doors and where rights groups say defendants are unable to choose their lawyers or see the evidence against them.

The death sentence — which can be appealed — comes against the back-



Iranian-German national and U.S. resident Jamshid Sharmahd attends his trial at the Revolutionary Court, in Tehran, Iran, Sunday, Feb. 6, 2022. Sharmahd, the senior member of a U.S.-based Iranian opposition group accused of orchestrating a deadly 2008 mosque bombing has been sentenced to death in Iran, authorities said Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2023. (Koosha Mahshid Falahi/Mizan News Agency via AP)

drop of months of anti-government protests in Iran sparked by the death of a 22-year-old woman who was detained by the morality police for allegedly violating the country's strict Islamic dress code.

The protesters have called for the overthrow of the country's ruling clerics. Monarchists based outside Iran support the protests, as do other groups and individuals with different ideologies.

Security forces have attacked the demonstrators with live ammunition, bird shot and batons, rights groups say. At least 530 protesters have been killed and nearly 20,000 people have been arrested, according to Human Rights Activists in Iran, a group monitoring the unrest.

Iranian authorities have blamed the protests on hostile foreign powers, without providing evidence, and have not released official figures for those killed or arrested.

Iran has executed four men accused of violence linked to the protests, and activists say at least 16 others have been sentenced to death.

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Islam member, confessed to killing him.

In 2021, two other men convicted of killing him had their convictions thrown out after a New York state judge declared there had been a miscarriage of justice.

The two men were later fully exon-

erated after New York's attorney general found prosecutors had withheld evidence that would have probably cleared them of the murder.

Families of the wrongly convicted men sued and won \$26m from New York City and \$10m from New York state.

Sports News



NBA teams get ready to make 4th-quarter push for playoffs

AP — Kevin Durant went to Phoenix. Russell Westbrook moved from Los Angeles to Los Angeles. Kevin Love did what once worked out nicely for LeBron James, taking his talents from Cleveland to Miami. And speaking of James, he says he's about to play some of the biggest games of his career.

The All-Star break ends Thursday.

Let the playoff-push fireworks begin.

"It's not the start of a new season," Miami guard Tyler Herro said. "But I think this is when guys really raise their level of play."

Boston, Milwaukee, Philadelphia, Denver, Cleveland and Memphis probably can go ahead and make playoff plans. Houston, Charlotte, San Antonio and Detroit probably can go ahead and start scheduling April vacations.

That leaves 20 teams for 10 playoff spots. Sacramento is in position to end the longest drought in NBA history — 16 years and counting — and Cleveland is in line to make the playoffs without someone named LeBron on the roster for the first time since 1998.

"We have a group that's dedicated to winning, and there are certain things we have to learn about each other," Cavaliers guard Donovan Mitchell said.

"It's not going to be all sunshine and rainbows with us. We're still a team that's young, but we also are figuring each other out."

The Cavaliers are five games behind Boston, 4 1/2 behind Milwaukee and two behind Philadelphia in the East. The rest of the race might get jumbled; 13th-place Orlando is only four games from a play-in berth.

"We've given ourselves a chance," Magic rookie Paolo Banchero said.

Out West, it's a mess.

"The West is loaded now," Clippers forward Marcus Morris Sr. said. "I don't know how that happened."

Here's how: Durant went to Phoenix. Durant's trade to the Suns could make a team that looked vulnerable anything but vulnerable.

Denver is five games clear of Memphis for the West lead and eight games up on No. 3 Sacramento.

But starting with the Kings, there are 11 teams in the standings — Sacramento, the Los Angeles Clippers (who just got Westbrook, after he was bought out by Utah following a trade with the Lakers), Phoenix, Dallas (now with Kyrie Irving alongside Luka Doncic), New Orleans, Minnesota, Golden State, Oklahoma City, Utah, Portland and the Lakers — separated by just



Phoenix Suns forward Kevin Durant, speaks to the media after being introduced during an NBA basketball team availability, Thursday, Feb. 16, 2023, in Phoenix. (AP Photo/Matt York)

six games.

The seedings could flip every night out West.

"Must-see TV," Morris said.

And James — who just passed Kareem Abdul-Jabbar for the NBA scoring record — says the 23 games the Lakers have left carry incredible significance.

He didn't go to the playoffs last year. He can't envision missing them again.

"I don't want to see myself not being part of the postseason for two years straight. It's just not part of my DNA," James said.

Here's some of what to know for the stretch run:

7 WITH 30

There are seven players — Dallas' Doncic, Philadelphia's Joel Embiid, Mil-

waukee's Giannis Antetokounmpo, Oklahoma City's Shai Gilgeous-Alexander, Portland's Damian Lillard, Boston's Jayson Tatum and James — averaging at least 30 points per game.

If that holds, it'll be an NBA record.

There's been only one season with more than three such players. That was 1961-62, with six — Wilt Chamberlain (50.4), Elgin Baylor (38.3 in 48 games, technically not enough to qualify as a scoring leader), Walt Bellamy (31.6), Bob Pettit (31.1), Oscar Robertson (30.8) and Jerry West (30.8).

IT'S THE FOURTH QUARTER

It's not the second half *cont'd on pg 17*

James Anderson: England bowler returns to top of Test rankings

BBC — England's leading wicket-taker James Anderson has returned to the top of the International Cricket Council's Test bowling rankings.

The seamer returned match figures of 7-54 in the first-Test win in New Zealand to end Australia captain Pat Cummins' four-year reign at the top.

At 40 years 207 days, Anderson is the oldest bowler to hold top spot since Australian Clarrie Grimmett in 1936.

It is the sixth time he



James Anderson is the fifth-oldest bowler to be ranked Test number one

has been number one, most recently in 2018.

India spinner Ravichandran Ashwin moves into second after taking 14 wickets in the first two Tests against Australia, while Cummins drops to

third.

Anderson has 682 Test wickets, third on the all-time list behind Sri Lanka spinner Muttiah Muralitharan (800) and late Australia great Shane Warne (708).

During the first Test in Mount Maunganui Anderson and Stuart Broad became the most successful bowling partnership in Test history, passing Warne and Glenn McGrath's record of 1,001 wickets.

The second Test starts in Wellington on Friday (22:00 GMT Thursday).

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of the season. It's really the fourth quarter.

An NBA regular season has 1,230 games; 884, or 72%, have been played. So if the season was an NBA game clock, 1:30 would remain in the third quarter.

Teams have somewhere between 21 and 25 games left. Minnesota is down to a league-low eight home games remaining, while Indiana has nine. Washington has a league-high 15 home games left, while Atlanta and Charlotte each have 14.

THE CHAMPS

Golden State will emerge from the All-Star break ninth in the Western Conference.

The defending NBA champion Warriors have some work to do.

No reigning champion has missed the following season's playoffs since the Chicago Bulls didn't get to the postseason in 1999. Before that, it was the Boston Celtics not making the playoffs in 1970.

Those Bulls lost Michael Jordan

and Scottie Pippen. Those Celtics lost Bill Russell and Sam Jones.

.590 AND IN

Over the last 20 seasons, there have been 173 teams that reached the All-Star break with a winning percentage of .590 or better.

And 171 of them made the playoffs, or 98.8%.

That's good news for Boston (.712), Milwaukee (.707), Denver (.695), Philadelphia (.667), Cleveland (.623) and Memphis (.614).

The only teams that hit the break with that good of a winning percentage and missed the playoffs were the 2007-08 Warriors and last season's Cavaliers.

The '07-08 Warriors went 16-14 after the break and missed the playoffs by two games. Last season's Cavs went 9-15 after the break, then lost two games in the play-in round.

MILESTONES

Upcoming milestones of note:

— Miami coach Erik Spoelstra (692) is five wins from passing Red Holzman (696) for 20th place on the

all-time list.

— Durant (26,684) is 27 points from passing Robertson (26,710) for 13th on the all-time scoring list. Durant is 263 points from passing Hakeem Olajuwon (26,946) for 12th.

— Westbrook (9,002) is 60 assists from passing Isaiah Thomas (9,061) for ninth on the all-time list.

— Paul George of the Clippers has 18 3-pointers from 2,000. He'd be the 14th player to reach that number.

— Golden State's home game Sunday against Minnesota will be the 6,000th regular-season contest in Warriors' history.

BUSY LA

Crypto.com Arena in Los Angeles will be busy — the Lakers and Clippers both have 13 home games to play in the season's final 46 days.

Not one, not two, but three NBA teams play three consecutive games in Los Angeles during March — the Lakers, the Clippers and the Oklahoma City Thunder. They visit the Clippers on March 21 and 23, then visit the Lakers on March 24.

Paris Olympics 2024: IOC says Games 'can build bridges' amid calls for Russian and Belarusian ban

BBC — The International Olympic Committee says the Games “can inspire us to solve problems by building bridges” amid calls to uphold the ban on Russian and Belarusian athletes for Paris 2024.

The United Kingdom is among 36 countries that have pledged to support an ongoing ban, which was put in place following Russia’s invasion of Ukraine.

The IOC said the Olympics “can open the door to dialogue and peace-building”.

It has been almost one year since Russia’s invasion began on 24 February 2022.

IOC president Thomas Bach has insisted that the organisation is not on the wrong side of history following criticism over the potential inclusion of Russian and Belarusian athletes at the 2024 Paris Olympics.

But UK culture secretary Lucy Frazer said the IOC’s plans were “not credible” after hosting representatives from countries including France, Germany, Poland, the United States and Canada at a summit earlier this month.

Ukraine, which was not part of the summit, has threatened to boycott the next Games if the IOC allows Russian athletes to compete.

In its statement on what



Russian and Belarusian athletes were allowed to compete under a neutral flag at the Winter Olympics in Beijing last year

it described as a “grim anniversary”, the IOC said it “re-affirms its unwavering solidarity with the Ukrainian athletes”, adding: “We all want to see a strong team from the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine at the Olympic Games Paris 2024 and the Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026”.

“The Olympic Games cannot prevent wars and conflicts. Nor can they address all the political and social challenges in our world. This is the realm of politics,” the IOC said.

“But the Olympic Games can set an example for a world where everyone respects the same rules and one another. They can in-

spire us to solve problems by building bridges, leading to better understanding among people.

“They can open the door to dialogue and peace-building in ways that exclusion and division do not.”

The IOC called on federations to exclude athletes from Russia and Belarus following the invasion of Ukraine and banned the nations from the Winter Paralympics in March 2022 - though athletes were allowed to compete under a neutral flag.

However, Ukraine president Volodymyr Zelensky said Russian participation at the Olympics “cannot be covered up with pretend neutrality or a white flag”

- adding the nation has “no place at sports and Olympic competitions” while the invasion continues.

The mayor of Paris, Anne Hidalgo, does not want Russia to compete at the 2024 Games.

The IOC has urged Ukraine to drop threats of a boycott and pointed to previous examples of “peaceful competition” including athletes from South and North Korea, Israel and Palestine, Armenia and Azerbaijan.

“With the war now raging for over a year, the entire Olympic Movement remains steadfast in its commitment to help the Ukrainian athletes in every way possible,” the IOC said.

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ABAVA hosts scorer and referee clinic ahead of local club championships

With just over a week before the start of its annual local club championships, the Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association is hosting a Scorer and Referee Clinic, starting this week.

The three-day exercise, which is being hosted at the indoor volleyball stadium at the YMCA Sports Complex, commenced last evening.

The second session will be held from 5pm to 6:15 pm today, with the final one taking place at the same time on Monday, 27th February.

The referee's training is being conducted by Rawle Lee, while the facilitators of the scorer's clinic will be Giselle Azar, Jacqueline Ladoo and Denise Mathias.

Meanwhile, one new team will be contesting the female division of the local volleyball league which is slated to take place from 4th March to 10th June this year.

Joining the battle to dethrone first time and defending champions Da Squad will be newcomers Royal Cruisers. The other five teams that contested

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“Our mission has always been to promote peace through sport. Peace-building efforts need dialogue. A competition with athletes who respect the Olympic Charter can serve as a catalyst for dialogue, which is always a first step to achieving peace.

“On this painful one-year mark, the entire Olympic Movement reiterates the call we made one year ago to all the political leaders of the world: “Give Peace a Chance.”



Last year's first time champions Da Squad will be defending their national female division title in the 2023 Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association's local club championships. (File photo)

last year's competition will once again be participating this year.

They are perennial and former champions Paragons, who finished second last year, Stoneville, North Coast Hardware Starz Seniors, North Coast Hardware Starz Juniors and Jets, who were third place winners last year.

Five of the six teams that contested last year's competition will once again be competing for the coveted national men's division title, which was won for fifth time by Stoneville in 2022.

Enforcers who captured the runner-up position behind champions Stoneville will not be one of the six teams contesting this year's competi-

tion.

Enforcers are being replaced by Pytonz, but the other four teams that contested last year's competition will be returning. They are last year's third place winners High Flyers, fourth place finishers Renegades, Sharks and Storming Lions.

The national club championship will commence with a double header at the volleyball stadium at the YMCA Sports Complex on Saturday, 4th March.

Royal Cruisers will face Paragons in the female division at 6:30 pm, while Pytonz will meet defending champions Stoneville in the men's division at 7:30 pm.



Sea View Farm Primary was among the winners in the Mini Boys Primary Division in the Inter-Schools' basketball league at the YMCA Sports Complex on Monday, 20th February. (Photo courtesy CPTSA Wings)

Rain interrupts play in schools' basketball league

Rainy weather forced the cancellation of all games in the Cool & Smooth Inter-Schools' Basketball League at the YMCA Sports Complex on Tuesday.

With the covered basketball court at the JSC Sports Complex closed for repairs, games in the inter-schools' league have been switched to the uncovered court at the YMCA facility.

However, there was action on the court in the Mini Boys Primary Division in the schools' basketball league on Monday.

Buckley's Primary prevailed 4-1 against Parham Primary, with Lenard Francis and Jordan Lee each scoring two points for the winners.

Cedar Grove Primary defeated Cobbs Cross Primary 16-3. Kevani White had eight points and Fabion Johnson converted four points for Cedar Grove.

Liberta Primary claimed an 8-2 victory against Pigotts Primary. Ashavin Pelle sank four points, while Dreshawn Lawrence and Akeem Weeks each scored two points for Liberta. Dante Richards scored the two points for Pigotts Primary.

Seaview Farm Primary secured a 9-4 victory over JT Ambrose Primary in Monday's other encounter.

Ezekiel Jackson converted four points and Nasri Jackson sank three points for Sea View Farm, while Jace Russell and Tony Hunte each scored two points for JT Ambrose Primary.

Meanwhile, just next door in the covered stadium, action continued the Inter-Schools' Volleyball Competitions on Tuesday.

Island Academy's Second Team defeated Christ the King High School's Second Team 15-7, 15-7 in a girls' division affair.

Ottos Comprehensive extended their unbeaten run by grabbing a hard fought three-set victory over All Saints Secondary in their boys' division encounter.

After winning the opening set 25-13, Ottos Comprehensive lost the second set 22-25, but recovered to win the third set and the encounter with a score of 15-10.

Ottos Comprehensive School also claimed a 25-21, 25-23 victory over Pares Secondary's First Team in the boys' division on Monday.

Pares Secondary School's Second Team was also beaten 25-12, 25-6 by Island Academy's Second Team in their boys' division affair.

Antigua Girls' High School's Third Team prevailed 15-13, 1-15, 15-12 against Island Academy's First Team in their girls' division encounter.

“Leading by example kicked me into another gear” – Hayley Matthews

Hayley Matthews, the captain of the West Indies Women’s Team, demonstrated her leadership qualities by delivering back-to-back Player-of-the-Match performances at the ICC Women’s T20 World Cup. With a remarkable score of 66 not out and 1-31 against Ireland and 20 and 2-14 against Pakistan, Matthews was the leading runs-scorer for the team and set an example for her teammates to follow.

Despite losing their opening matches against England and India, Matthews motivated her team to bounce back and give their best in the remaining two encounters which resulted in thrilling wins.

Although the team did not qualify for the semi-finals, Matthews took her team to the brink of possibility.

In an interview with CWI Media, Matthews revealed her motivation to lead by example and inspire her teammates. She acknowledged the tough competition her team faced in the tournament, but expressed pride in the way they fought back in the final games.

“Just trying to lead by example helped kick me into another gear from the Ireland game. As the senior player in the team, I just want to lead from the front and hope the others can follow in my footsteps.”

The skipper was pleased with the inclusion of three Rising Stars Under 19 players in the squad. She believes that their exposure to a high-level tournament like the T20 World Cup will prove valuable for their growth and development as cricketers.



Hayley Matthews

“Having those Under 19 girls here at a tournament like this which is the pinnacle of T20 cricket. The experience they would’ve gotten from being around the team is going to be really valuable to them and I hope they’re going to take it and continue developing

and growing their game.”

The West Indies Women’s Team will next host Ireland Women for three One-Day Internationals and three T20 Internationals in June and July. The full match schedule will be announced once confirmed in coming weeks.

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ndi White getting a top score of 29. Jaden Carmichael captured six for 74 in 17.2 overs and Amory picked up three for 41 in 13 overs.

St. Kitts had also won the toss and batted against St. Maarten, amassing 483 for five in 118 overs before captain Jacques Taylor made a first innings declaration.

Middle-order batsman Akeem Saunders hit 154 off 218 balls with 14 fours and a six, while opener Larry Audain cracked 129 off 279 balls with 10 fours and two sixes.

Opener Mikyle Louis contributed 55, wicketkeeper/batsman Jael

Clarke hammered an unbeaten 51 off 45 balls and Terrance Warde chipped in with 36 against a St. Maarten attack that used 11 bowlers in which Daniel Doram was the most successful, picking up two for 73 in 29 overs.

In reply, St. Maarten were all out for 206 in 85.5 overs in their first innings. All-rounder Nathan Edwards top scored with 45 and wicketkeeper Tyanick Honore made 38.

Jeremiah Louis took two for 20, Rasheed Eddy had two for 24 and Warde claimed two for 27.

After St. Kitts attained a first innings lead of 277 runs, St. Maarten was asked to follow on and they could

only muster 96 all out in 39.4 overs in their second innings as they crashed to a heavy defeat.

Akeem Charles top scored with 30, while Warde snapped up four for 22, Sheno Berridge grabbed two wickets for one run and Eddy picked up two wickets for five runs.

The tournament will continue with the second round of matches from 23rd to 25th February.

Antigua and Barbuda will oppose Montserrat at Warner Park in St. Kitts, St. Kitts will oppose Anguilla at Conaree in St. Kitts, while Nevis will challenge St. Maarten at the Elquemedo T. Willett Park in Nevis.

Montserrat, St. Kitts make winning start to LI three-day tournament

Montserrat and St. Kitts joined Antigua and Barbuda in winning their opening round matches in the Leeward Islands Senior Men's Three-Day Tournament in the Federation of St Kitts and Nevis on Tuesday, 21st February.

Antigua and Barbuda had coasted to an eight-wicket victory over Anguilla inside two days in their opening round match at Conaree in St. Kitts on Monday.

Montserrat overcame host Nevis by 45 runs at the Elquemedo Willett Park in Nevis, while St Kitts crushed St, Maarten by an innings and 181 runs at Warner Park in St Kitts.

Set 254 for victory, Nevis fell short as they were dismissed for 208 in 61.3 overs. Wicketkeeper/batsman Carlton Bowen-Tuckett top scored with 68 and Adelvin Phillip made 57.

Deno Baker captured five for 82 in 22.3 overs, while Damian Williams picked up three for 25 in nine overs.

Montserrat had won



The Montserrat team celebrate after beating Nevis in their opening round match in the Leeward Islands Senior Men's Three-Day Tournament at the Elquemedo Willett Park in Nevis on Tuesday, 21st February. (Photo courtesy LICB)

the toss and decided to bat, making 243 in their first innings. Middle order batsman Shernyl Burns struck 82, opener Kasjaun Sullivan made 63 and Jemai Williams hit an unbeaten 45.

Off-spinner Onaje Amory snapped up six for 72 in

19.4 overs and Kian Pemberton claimed three for 37 in 15.2 overs.

In reply, Nevis could only muster 142 all out in 44.5 overs with 25 extras being the top single contributor their overall total. Deno Baker claimed four for 33

and Montserrat's captain Zawandi White took three for 34.

After gaining a first innings lead of 101 runs, Montserrat tumbled to 152 all out in 41.2 overs in their second innings with Zawa-

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