

MONDAY 6TH FEBRUARY 2023 | VOLUME 4 ISSUE 25 | WWW.POINTVILLE.AG

YOUTH VIOLENCE: URGENT MEETING SCHEDULED FOLLOWING ATTACKS

Story on Page 2



The Rotary Club of Antigua and the Antigua and Barbuda Diabetes Association partnered recently to educate the faculty and students of Jennings Secondary School on the prevention of noncommunicable diseases and living healthy lifestyles. During their visit, free health screenings were also offered. *Story on page 9.*

Urgent meeting to address youth violence to be convened

The committee assembled to find solutions to the deepening problem of youth-on-youth violence will convene an urgent meeting, very likely this week.

Director of Education, Clare Browne said the meeting will take place “as soon as possible” to address the incident that occurred last Friday near the YMCA Complex in which several teens, armed with machetes and other weapons, were menacing other young people present.

All the detained children were released to the custody of their parents following the incident, without charge.

According to Director Browne who chairs the committee, its other members are representatives of the Ministries of Education and Social Transformation, the Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda, the Antigua and Barbuda Union of Teachers and the National Parents-Teachers Association.

The committee met last in December 2022, when they agreed to implement a 13-point plan to tackle the increase in youth violence.

A follow-up meeting was to have taken place last month, however, it was postponed due to the 18th January elections.

Browne has said that in view of the Clare Hall Secondary School incident and the arrests on Friday of the young men near YMCA, the committee must meet urgently to review its plan, assess the results of the areas rolled out so far and examine other areas that must still be addressed.

Among other things, the 13-point plan calls for public education on the Juvenile Justice Act and the country’s marijuana laws which now allow people to legally possess enough of the substance for their personal use.

The committee believes that many young people in particular harbour a great deal of misconceptions and lack information regarding



Director of Education, Clare Browne

the decriminalisation of marijuana.




The plan of action also calls for members of parliament to be lobbied to enact legislative changes which will give the police greater authority to deal with youthful perpetrators of violence and members of youth gangs. There are concerns that the laws, as they currently exist, prevent the police from effectively executing their duties.

St. Lucia is also facing a similar crisis with respect to youth crime.

There, police have implemented policies which allow them to arrest and charge young people who are found loitering, fighting, armed with weapons or illegal substances.

Increased police patrols in the hours after schools close, particularly in high crime areas, have also been recommended as most of the violence that happens takes place in areas such as the YMCA or the bus stations where children congregate.

Director Browne said the escalating cases of youth-on-youth violence is a “very serious matter” which affects all of society and one which requires a societal approach to resolve.

<p>Mon 06 Day</p> <p>80° </p> <p>A few clouds from time to time. High near 80F. Winds E at 10 to 20 mph.</p> <p>Humidity 71% UV Index 9 of 10</p> <p>Sunrise 6:37 am Sunset 6:05 pm</p>	<p>Mon 06 Night</p> <p>73° </p> <p>Partly cloudy skies. Low 73F. Winds E at 10 to 20 mph.</p> <p>Humidity 79% UV Index 0 of 10</p> <p>Moonrise 6:59 pm Moonset 7:20 am</p> <p> Full Moon</p>
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Port Authority sets sight on Crabbes Development

The Antigua Port Authority (APA) is now turning its attention to developing the Crabbes Harbour where major work will soon begin to upgrade and expand the facility.

This follows the APA's announcement that the expansion and dredging of St. John's Harbour is nearing completion.

It is against this background that the APA has announced major capital expenditure this year that will include development at Crabbes and in Barbuda.

APA general manager, Darwin Telemaque, said the authority now has the green light to complete negotiations that will allow dredging at Crabbes Harbour to begin.

"I am very happy to report that we have the greenlight to commence negotiations for the dredging of the Crabbes Harbour. Once we have finalised the contract and we start having vessels coming into Crabbes, that is going to be a beautiful day.

"What's happening there is that we are building a Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) industrial site [to service the LNG power plant nearby].

"That plant is going to require larger ships coming into Crabbes.

"Currently we are at

five metres so, we are going to be dredging down to eight metres," he reported.

The new power plant is expected to be completed this June and dredging at the harbour is also expected to be completed to coincide with this timeline.

In Barbuda, meanwhile, APA will oversee the construction of a new pier, warehouse and operations building, which will house the Customs and Immigration departments, plant health division and other key government agencies.

According to Tele-



APA General Manager, Darwin Telemaque

maque, the work to be embarked upon in Barbuda is part of the greater goal of readying Barbuda to meet the requirements necessary to become a port of entry.

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

BA 6:00 AM TO ST. JOHN'S

WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
(CRABBS DEPARTURE)

AB 10:00AM
BA 3:00PM

UPDATED SCHEDULE

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ABTA CEO: Tourism’s contribution to economic recovery benefits all

People from all socioeconomic backgrounds in all industries benefit from Antigua and Barbuda’s strong economic recovery, which is driven, in large part, by the tourism sector.

That is the assessment of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority (ABTA), Colin James.

Antigua and Barbuda has continued to make a remarkable rebound from the ravages of the COVID-19 pandemic, which brought with it a significant downturn in the economy between 2020 to 2021.

Antigua and Barbuda was the first country in the Eastern Caribbean to reopen its borders and return to business following the initial global lockdowns.



ABTA CEO, Colin James

Since then, the country has been able to work its way back to recording an impressive 8.5 percent economic growth in 2022.

While a small contraction is forecast, the country is forecast to record economic growth of 7.6 percent this

year.

Despite these figures which prove the country is performing well, there is often the complaint that the benefits of the country’s economic progress are not enjoyed by the common man.

CEO James, however, has denied this assertion. He says the benefits of the country’s tourism driven economic growth makes its way into the pockets of the ordinary men and women who work in hotels, and as vendors and taxi drivers.

“One of the things that has been remarkable about our recovery, first of all, the increase that we are seeing in what’s in the industry is called the ADR, the Average Daily Rate that

cont’d on pg 5



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CALVINAIR HELICOPTERS

cont'd from pg 4

people pay to stay at a hotel.

“Unlike some destinations where they did serious discounting to get people back, we in fact did it the other way, and it worked for us because we have a good product, number one,” said James during an interview on Pointe On De Streetz on Pointe FM.

“Antigua and Barbuda has excellent (air) lift, excellent access, and so, because our product is good, people pay for value, and we have been able to get higher rates.

“That means higher service charge for the people who work directly in the industry, and it means more taxes are collected on the ABST (Antigua and Barbuda SalesTax).

“I am getting feedback from key stakeholders - particularly from the taxis and transportation ambassadors at the airport - they are feeling the volume of the huge influx.

“The folks who are vendors or taxi drivers who are directly involved in the industry, they can feel it. They know what happened when the industry totally shut down and they are seeing the effects of the comeback.”

James also encouraged people who work in the industry, such as vendors and taxi drivers, to equip themselves to maximise their potential so that they are in a position to reap even greater benefits from the tourism industry.

“Like anything else, I

think you have to also position yourself whether you are an entrepreneur or small businessperson to take advantage of the opportunities that present themselves,” James said.

“One of the things that we did, for example, at the Tourism Authority, particularly with the work that we are doing over in Barbuda, was to make sure that we conducted a fundamental training for all tourism first-hand persons who interacted with guests.

“This is to ensure that you engage with them, to still be professional, but to still give an authentic Antiguan and Barbudan experience and I think those entrepreneurs and vendors and those taxi drivers that operate like that, they will see a difference in their income.

“So, I think it takes a while obviously, for that to trickle through...but if you look in industry and you look in people who are associated with hospitality, you will see a remarkable difference between those who give customer service.

“If you are transporting guests and you don't talk or you don't engage or you don't smile, they will come out of the taxi, they will pay you your fare, but they would not give you a tip, but if you engage, you will probably make more in tips than what you make from the fare itself and that is the type of service quality that we want to instil in people in industry and encourage that.”

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.

National Parks Authority prioritising coastal protection

The National Parks Authority (NPA) joined the global community in observing World Wetlands Day on Wednesday 2nd February.

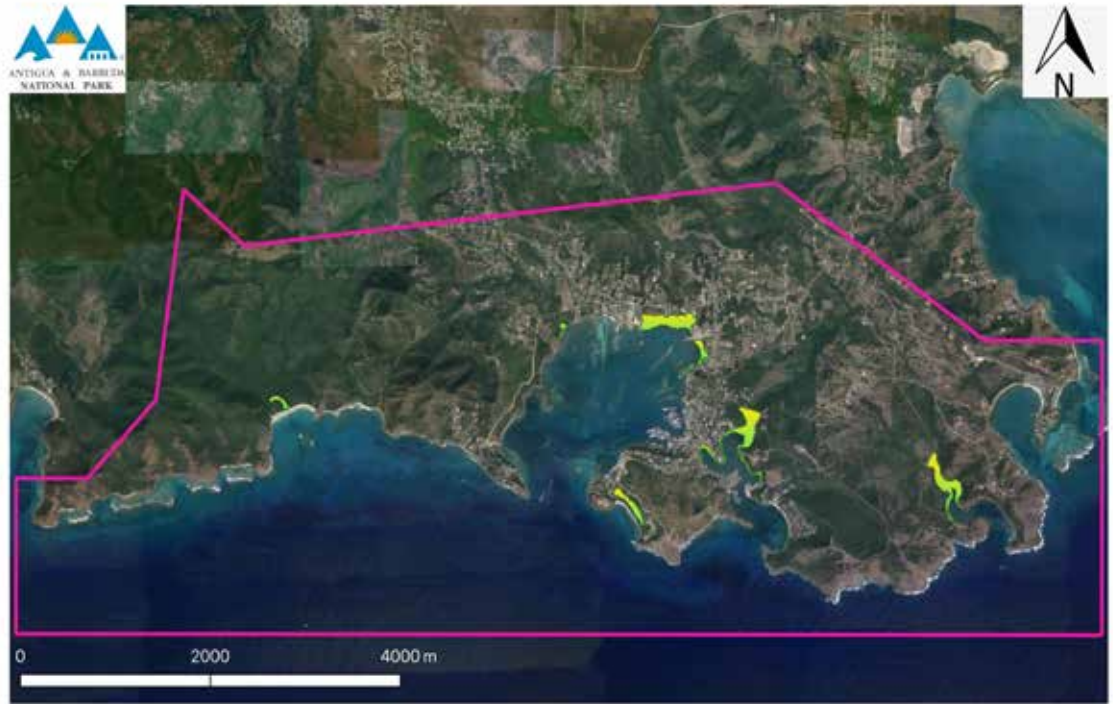
The theme selected this year was “It’s time for Wetland Restoration”.

According to the NPA, wetlands are of considerable value to Antigua and Barbuda’s overall ecosystem and the lives and livelihoods of the country’s people.

In Antigua, they are easily identifiable by virtue of the fact they are usually saturated, covered by water or dominated by mangrove vegetation.

Mangrove Wetland Ecosystems are regarded as extremely important for coastal resilience and the support of livelihoods.

Within the Nelson



Legend
 ■ NDNP Mangrove Wetland Outline
 ■ NDNP Boundary

Nelson Dockyard National Park
 Mangrove Wetland Survey

Mangrove Wetlands
 EU, NPA
 WGS 1984
 Google Earth, 2018

Dockyard National Park (NDNP), this is especially true because of the multiple coastal communities that

are heavily reliant on the marine ecosystems, including wetlands.

Mangrove wetland eco-

systems can be found in all the bays and harbours within the NDNP. The significant

cont'd on pg 7

Guys and Dolls
 Simply Classy

268-782-6020



cont'd from pg 6

ones which provide benefits to the communities they are part of include Marsh Village mangrove wetlands (Falmouth Harbour), Ordinance Bay mangrove wetlands (English Harbour) and Indian Creek.

“These are among the reasons why the National Park is committed to [ensuring] their survival and protection. They are protected under the NPA General Regulations 2012 and the Environmental Management and Protection Act 2019.

“Under the regulations, the Park maintains its vigilance against any man-made threats against our Wetlands. For instance, in 2021 it discovered an illegal backfilled site and as a result went about restoring the area to its previous state. The backfill was removed, and the red mangrove seedlings that were planted continue to mature today.

“It’s this type of care and effort that will ensure our wetlands can continue to provide important benefits to include nurseries for

juvenile fish, coastal protection from storm surge and inundation, sediment trapping of land-based substrate and natural mooring for boat owners. Mangrove trees also provide essential habitat for both native and migrant birds that nest in Antigua and Barbuda,” a statement from the NPA said.

The NPA conducted a Mangrove Wetland assessment in 2020 which highlighted that mangrove wetlands cover some 260,855m² of coastal area within the NDNP, identified the health characteristics and threats these ecosystems are facing, and documented that approximately 27 percent of mangrove wetland areas have been lost over the past 70 years.

In light of these revelations, the NPA said, “We will be looking at the various threats to these ecosystems this year, and instituting mitigation measures, such as mangrove restoration, to improve the health and resilience of these ecosystems.”



Antigua Cruise Port

JOB OPPORTUNITY

The Accounts Officer

The Accounts Officer will report to the Financial Controller in supporting the company’s Finance programs.

CORE DUTIES

1. Reconcile bank accounts daily and prepare cash reports.
2. Post vendor invoices to accounting software daily, initiate and post payments.
3. Send out invoices to cruise lines daily and tenants monthly.
4. Follow up on receivables for Cruise Lines and tenants and compile monthly reports.
5. Manage purchasing (placing orders, clearing overseas shipments, liaising with Broker/Driver).
6. Receiving purchases, tracking inventory (cleaning and office supplies), compile monthly inventory reports.
7. Update the fixed asset register weekly (new purchases and disposals).
8. Assist in the preparation for and during Audits.
9. Assist in the preparation of management and financial reports.
10. Fill in for Admin as Financial Assistant when position is vacant.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Associate Degree or equivalent in Accounting or a Finance related field. In the absence of the respective qualifications, a minimum of 3-years relevant work experience.
- Good organizational skills.
- Excellent communication and coordination skills.
- Excellent understanding of dealing with people.
- Leadership skills.
- Use of written and spoken English and report writing skills.
- Confident and self-motivated.
- Ability to work flexible hours.

Antigua Cruise Port (ACP) is seeking to recruit a highly motivated and experienced Accounts Officer.

Learn more at
www.antiguacruiseport.com/careers

All applications are to be submitted
 by February 10, 2023
 to veryssam@antiguacruiseport.com

Wage increase finalised for KFC line staff

The Antigua and Barbuda Workers' Union (ABWU) and the management of the local KFC franchise have agreed on a wage increase for the fast-food chain's employees.

Word of the wage increase follows the signing of a new collective bargaining agreement.

The increases will be implemented over a three-year period on the following schedule: Year 1 - \$15/week; Year 2 - \$13/week and Year 3 - \$13/week.

The new agreement also increases the starting pay from \$9.00 per hour to \$9.50.

Some staff members will also benefit from additional wage adjustments based on their years of employment with the company.

ABWU industrial relations officer, Hugh Joseph, described the tone of the negotiations as cordial, despite some differences. He said both parties "did what was in the best interest of the employees and the continued successful operation of the business".

KFC's General Manager, Tessa Hesse, said the agreement comes as the company is still recovering from the fallout of the pandemic and facing increases in production costs.

Notwithstanding these challeng-



es, Hesse noted that KFC Antigua has been proud of its ability to maintain full employment through difficult times.

Throughout the negotiations, she added that the company remained mindful of the rising cost of living and was committed to providing relief to its employees.

Hesse said it gave KFC "great pride" to make good on the agreement.

Executive Secretary of the An-

tigua and Barbuda Employers Federation (ABEF), Arlene Martin, said through close cooperation with KFC Antigua, the union was able to conclude negotiations in record time.

Martin highlighted the fact that the ABEF plays a critical role in assisting companies to negotiate labour agreements.

The new agreement covers the period 1st October, 2022 – 30th September, 2025.



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, 6th February 2023	Tuesday, 7th February 2023	Wednesday, 8th February 2023	Friday, 9th February 2023
Cassada Gardens west of the APUA Booster Station. 8:45 AM - 12:00 PM	American Road, Scotts Hill and Radio Range 8:45 AM - 11:30 AM	Section of Cobbs Cross east of the Primary School 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Section of Piccadilly, Red Hill, Isaac Hill and St. James Club 8:45 AM - 12:00 PM
—	Section of Newfield near the Primary School, St. Phillips and the Crossroad Centre Antigua 8:45 AM - 1:00 PM	—	Small section of Jennings Extension heading towards Hermitage Bay 8:45 AM - 12:00 PM
—	—	—	Section Mount Joy west of the Service Station 8:45 AM - 1:00 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.

Rotary, A&B Diabetes Association team up for Health Outreach Partnership

The Rotary Club of Antigua and the Antigua and Barbuda Diabetes Association continued their Health Outreach Partnership Programme at Jennings Secondary School on 31st January, 2023.

Supporting the initiative this year were the Ministry of Health, the Medical Benefits Scheme, the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre and the Antigua and Barbuda Association of Nutritionists and Dietitians.

Over 120 students and members of the school's faculty participated in an

education and screening exercise on risk factors for Diabetes and other Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs).

The tests offered included blood glucose, cholesterol, blood pressure, weight, height and body mass index. Participants were also offered counselling and education on healthy lifestyles and the prevention of NCDs.

Students participated in an exhibition on 100 Years of Insulin and a demonstration and sampling of breakfast shakes and smoothies.



Getting your words worth

By Tony Deyal

Almost all of us who grew up or lived in the Caribbean call their mother by many variations of “Mother”-including “Mummy”, “Mammy”, “Ma”, “Mooma” and, when the chips are down, out, and needing replenishment, there is “Mother Dearest”. Fathers are tougher creatures but the occasional “Dad”, “Daddy”, “Papa”, “Pa”, “Pop” and “Pappy” can always be heard.

However, when things get bad and you need a little “theatre” (cinema) money, and you go to the rumshop or workplace to look for him, he is elevated to heavenly status.

It is “Oh God Dad, all the other boys and them going to theatre and I don’t have no money.” However, the one thing you, as his child, can’t call him is how he is described by your Mom, especially when serious matters are involved. He is “de chile fadder” (the child’s father).

If you take a quick look through the internet you will find in the Jamaican newspapers, “Woman for questioning re child’s father’s death...”; Catherine woman charged for killing child’s father...”; “A woman who knowingly names the wrong man as her child’s father on the birth certificate is seen as committing a breach of the Registration...”; and one that is common, not just in Jamaica but in other countries, is the complaint by mothers about the lack of interest by the fathers in their daughters.

Margaret Macaulay, the Jamaican Commissioner of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (OAS), responding to a question by a mother in the Jamaica Observer on whether the court can force a dad to spend time with his daughter, said, “The lack of interest of your child’s

father in seeing and spending time with his daughter is unnatural. It is also very cruel...”

The “child father” issues are not limited to Jamaica. A young woman who filmed herself “choking” her one-year-old daughter to get the attention of the father explained that “she was not trying to hurt the child; she just wanted attention from her daughter’s dad.”

What is common in almost all the Caribbean countries, including Trinidad where I grew up, is like this one, “The prosecutor disclosed that the baby resided with her father... However, the man is also involved with another woman.”

And my mind, remembering so many years on growing up, asked, “Only one other woman?” All too quickly, I got my answer in a Barbados Nation headline, “Upset child father threatens ex’s police boyfriend”.

In Trinidad, calypso singer/composer Pternsky composed and sang in 2017 the calypso “Dutty Child Father” which included, “Mind yuh business mind yuh little one./ The dutty child father on the run./ Mind youh daughter mind yuh little son./ The dutty child father on the run...”

When I was in “elementary” school in Trinidad, we had to read and memorise a poem by William Wordsworth, “My Heart Leaps Up.”

*My heart leaps up when I behold
A rainbow in the sky:
So was it when my life began;
So is it now I am a man;
So be it when I shall grow old,
Or let me die!
The Child is father of the Man;
And I could wish my days to be
Bound each to each by natural piety.*

Not even Sherlock Holmes would



Tony Deyal

have described this poem to his sidekick, Dr Watson, as “elementary” even though we were in “Elementary” school. Worse we had no idea what “piety” was.

The headmaster’s son, whose lifestyle was a bit better than that of the rest of us, thought it was “pie and tea” until he got pestered with what kind of pie, whether “aloo” (potato) or saltfish, and if “it was green tea he does drink”.

But that was not the worst of it. What struck me and a couple of the other boys was this thing about “The child is father of the man.”

Hansey was first, “He have to be mad! I eh even know who my father is so how I could be his father. But if I was really his father ah wouldah kill him with licks for what he do my mother.”

Another one, Bascombe I think, was frightened by the poem. “He does beat me so bad, even worse than the headmaster Mr. Forde. You think I would ever want to tell him I is his father?”

I sympathised because I didn’t think anyone could be worse than Forde who had put me to lie on my stomach over a desk, hit me thirty-three lashes with a leather strap,

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and when out of sheer bravado I came up laughing, he threw me back and struck me another thirty-three.

Worse, when I went home my father was ready for me. One of the children had told my mother who felt that my father needed to intervene, not with the school but my already burning and bleeding rear end.

Years later I realised that one interpretation of the poem is that “man is the product of habits and behaviour developed in youth.”

In other words, our childhoods shape our adulthood and the character we form as children stay with us into our adult life.

I can live with that, understand it, but it makes me even more worried. One of my teaching colleagues sent me a WhatsApp question last week that may have got this particular ball rolling.

He asked, “Hey Tony do you remember those school jokes that went like this. You'd say one cup, then your friend would say two cup etc. until you got to four cup.”

Or a similar one that begins one “q” until you got to four “q”. Or conjugating the Latin verb “iamano”, “iamanass” etc. until you got to “iamanant”.

Or the Christmas greeting "May the season bless and greet you, with sores upon your feet, and crabs

as big as lobsters, hang on your balls and eat, and when the whole world turns against you, and your life is a total wreck, make a flip through your a**hole, and break your f****ing neck.”

I thought if those children (and given my love of language, jokes and puns, that included me), are father to any man, the whole world is doomed.

But then I figured that if at 77 I haven't destroyed the world as yet, maybe it is either that the Almighty doesn't mind a dirty joke or two, especially by kids who don't know better, or my “X-rated” old-talk is overwhelmed and defeated by good kids who are not just the father but also the

mother of those who father the man instead of being nothing more than “the child father”.

In that same school I attended, there was a kidnapping. The teacher woke up the boy and sent him to Mr. Forde.

My Dad didn't come home for two weeks, so I went to the police station and complained, “I can't find my father.” “What's he like?” the policeman asked. I replied, “Overproof rum and women.”

**Tony Deyal was last seen sharing the story of the little boy who boldly told his dad he didn't seem to know what it meant to be a father. The father said he thought it was apparent.*



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World Bank announces first round of funds to help Caribbean countries build pandemic resilience

The World Bank's Pandemic Fund Governing Board has approved US\$300 million in financing for its first round of funding to help Caribbean and other developing countries better prepare for and respond to future pandemics.

The Washington-based financial institution said the Fund is also inviting interested eligible countries and implementing entities to submit expressions of interest (EOI) for potential projects to be supported by this initial funding.

The projects to be financed by the first round of funding will prioritise strengthening comprehensive disease surveillance and early warning, laboratory systems, and human resources/public health workforce capacity.

"This is in line with the International Health Regulations (IHR) (2005) and other internationally endorsed legal frameworks, and consistent with a One Health approach," the bank said.

The EOI will help facilitate potential collaboration among countries and partners, and better assess their interest and needs.

The selection process



THE WORLD BANK

will conclude with a review of formal proposals to be solicited in March, the World Bank said.

"I'm pleased that the Pandemic Fund is moving forward quickly with its first round of funding to help countries and regions build resilience to future global health threats," World Bank Group President David Malpass said.

"The Fund will play a vital role by complementing investments and technical support from existing international institutions and incentivizing countries to increase their own efforts to strengthen pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response capacity," he added.

The World Bank said the Pandemic Fund, a

collaborative partnership among donor governments, co-investor countries, foundations, civil society organisations, and international agencies, was created last year "to provide a dedicated stream of additional, long-term funding for critical pandemic prevention, preparedness and response (PPR) in eligible low- and middle-income countries, through investments and technical support."

Multilateral Development Banks, United Nations agencies and specialised global health institutions currently serve as the Fund's implementing entities, the bank said.

"In the face of multiple global challenges and competing priorities, the

Pandemic Fund is a significant innovation in global health financing that helps us stay focused on investing in pandemic PPR in low- and middle-income countries," said Dr. Chatib Basri, chair of the Board.

"We're off to a very good start but the financing needs are enormous, so we look forward to additional contributions in the coming months. In the meanwhile, we will deploy the available funding for greatest impact."

The Pandemic Fund will allocate financing where investments are most urgently needed to bolster PPR for COVID-19 and future pandemics, addressing key capacity gaps at national, regional and global levels.

Belize gov't reaffirms Maya Land Rights

The Belize government says it is reaffirming its commitment to full compliance with the terms of the Consent Order of the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) and to the implementation of a Maya Land Policy.

In a statement, the government said it is reiterating the commitment in "light of recent public statements" following a derogatory comment made by minister of state in the Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Investment, Michael Eस्पат, late last month.

It said the Maya Land Policy "not only affords protection to the rights of the Maya people recognized by our courts but "also addresses the concerns of other Belizeans which underpin the comments of Honourable Michael Eस्पат".

The Maya Leaders Alliance (MLA) said Eस्पат's statements regarding the appointment of the Commissioner of Indigenous People's Affairs, were "nothing short of racist" and the Belize Progressive Party (BPP) has also condemned what it termed the derogatory remarks.

In its statement, the government said, "finding an appropriate balance



requires considerable deliberations both by expert consultants and the Cabinet sub-committee engaged in the process," the statement said, adding that the government "does not agree with the characterizations sought to be attributed to Minister Eस्पат's comments but understands that they are driven by political and other agendas.

"Likewise, the government of Belize publicly condemns the use of any racist language and fear mongering in dealing with the Maya land rights by any person or group and views such activity as detrimental to the ongoing process.

"The government specifically calls on the var-

ious Maya leader organisations to refrain from alarmist pronouncements that could harm this complex process."

It said a draft Maya Land Policy is at an advanced stage and the government expects to release it shortly.

"The object of the policy is to provide a framework for the development and implementation of affirmative measures to be taken by the government of Belize to implement the Consent Order as informed by historical court proceedings in Belize, international human rights standards and international jurisprudence as well as by existing national policies."

The government said the policy will be subject to full consultation with the Maya people and their representatives as well as with the public before it is adopted so that all stakeholders will have full opportunity to contribute to it.

"The formulation of the policy is indeed the next step in compliance with the Consent Order of the Caribbean Court of Justice," it added.

On April 22, 2015, the CCJ issued the Consent Order confirming that Maya customary land tenure rights fall within the ambit of the Constitution of Belize and are protected by the Constitution.

Investigation underway following death threats against Bahamian PM Phillip Davis



Prime Minister of Bahamas Phillip Davis

CMC - Bahamas Police Commissioner Clayton Fernander says a full blown investigation is underway following death threats against Prime Minister Phillip "Brave" Davis.

Speaking during an emergency press conference, the police commissioner said two anonymous phone calls were made shortly after midday, threatening the prime minister's life.

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

sioner said.

According to Fernander, officers are following significant leads and the prime minister remains in "good spirits".

"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."

"We are now reviewing the threat level so we can

cont'd on pg 15

Trinidad Coast Guard search for missing fishermen

CMC - A search is now underway for four fishermen, after the vessel in which they set sail five days ago was found partially submerged in the waters off Cedros, to the south of Trinidad and Tobago.

The Trinidad Express reports that boat Captain Heeralal Kooblal and three workers left Grand Lagoon Village, Mayaro, last Tuesday.

Relatives said the men were on a five-day fishing expedition.

Kooblal, a 53-year-old



seasoned fisherman, Rishi Kimchan and two others identified as Tallman and George were expected to return home at noon on Saturday.

Relatives said they were concerned as the men had not answered.

Kooblal's wife, Farida

Dhunda, told the Trinidad Express that her husband was experienced, and she did not believe the men had perished at sea.

A search for the missing men began on Saturday afternoon, and according to Dundalk, "The boat was found this morning and we

understand there were no life jackets or raft onboard, so we are hoping they were able to get out in time."

She said her husband was a good swimmer and assured the other families that he would do the best he can to assist the other men.

Cuba denounces impact of U.S. blockade after 61 years

CMC - The Cuban government says 61 years after the signing of Proclamation 3447, which established the imposition of an economic, commercial, and financial blockade by the United States, the system is the most severe, prolonged, and inhumane applied against any nation.

In a statement posted on Twitter on Friday – the anniversary of the signing of the proclamation, Cuba’s foreign minister Bruno Rodriguez Parrilla recalled the approval of the policy that was enforced by then U.S. President John F. Kennedy and pointed out that for more than 60 years Cubans have faced unjust aggression.

According to official figures, the accumulated damage during six decades



of application of this policy amounts to more than US\$154.2 billion and taking into account the behaviour of the dollar against the value of gold in the international market, the quantifiable damages reach US\$391.1 billion dollars.

Rodriguez Parrilla has on several occasions said the U.S. blockade was carefully designed, targeting each one of Cuba’s main sources of income, vicious-

ly seeking to increase the impact on the daily life of the population.

According to Cuban authorities, the siege has tightened in recent years to unprecedented levels, and an example of this is that only between August 2021 and February 2022, the island recorded losses of 3,806.5 billion dollars, a figure 49 percent higher than that reported January-July 2021.

According to the Cuban government, the US persists in ignoring this result and has tightened the blockade to unprecedented levels, applying a policy of economic choking to deliberately seek the collapse of the country.

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put some additional security measures in place along with our law enforcement partner and the team here from the defence force and so we are on top of this.”

He also pleaded with those responsible for the calls “to stop now,” saying police will not tolerate it and will go after them with the full extent of the law.

Meanwhile, the prime minister is still expected to continue his normal duties – under heightened security.

“Prime Minister Davis has been apprised of the situation and additional security measures have been put in place,” said his Press Secretary Clint Watson.

“While the threat against the prime minister is being taken seriously, it is the current assessment of the prime minister’s security team that he should continue with his normal duties and further assessments will be made once the investigation reveals further information,” Watson said.

Weekend Puzzle Solution

TOOLING ALONG By Fred Piscop

1	G	A	L	A	S	6	T	O	R	A	H	11	H	E	P					
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Iran's supreme leader pardons 'tens of thousands' of prisoners

Aljazeera - Iran's supreme leader has pardoned or allowed a reduction in jail sentences for "tens of thousands" of prisoners, including some arrested in recent anti-government protests.

The pardons approved on Sunday by Ayatollah Ali Khamenei came with conditions, according to details announced in state media reports, which said the move would not apply to any of the numerous dual nationals held in Iran.

Those accused of "corruption on earth" – a capital charge brought against some protesters, four of whom have been executed – would also not be pardoned, state news agency IRNA reported.

Neither would it apply to those charged with "spying for foreign agencies" or those "affiliated with groups hostile to the Islamic Republic".

Iran was swept up by protests following the death of a young Iranian Kurdish woman Mahsa Amini in the custody of the country's morality police last September. The 22-year-old had been arrested for violating Islamic dress codes.

Iranians from all walks



Ayatollah Ali Khamenei

of life took part in the demonstrations, marking one of the boldest challenges to Iran's government since the 1979 revolution.

'Indoctrination and propaganda'

According to the Human Rights Activists News Agency, about 20,000 people have been arrested in connection with the protests, which the authorities accused Iran's "foreign enemies" of fomenting.

Rights groups say more than 500 have been killed in the crackdown, including 70 minors. At least four people have been hanged, according to the Iranian ju-

diciary. Iran has not offered a death toll for months.

In a letter to Khamenei requesting the pardon, judiciary head Gholam-Hossein Mohseni Ejei said: "During recent events, a number of people, especially young people, committed wrong actions and crimes as a result of the indoctrination and propaganda of the enemy."

Protests have slowed considerably since the hangings began.

"Since the foreign enemies and anti-revolutionary currents' plans have been foiled, many of these youths now regret their ac-

tions," Ejei wrote.

Khamenei approved the pardons in honour of the anniversary of the 1979 Islamic revolution. Khamenei took on the post as the country's political and religious leader in 1989.

The Norway-based group Iran Human Rights said last week that at least 100 detained protesters faced possible death sentences.

Amnesty International has criticised Iranian authorities for what it called "sham trials designed to intimidate those participating in the popular uprising that has rocked Iran".

Europe bans Russian diesel, other oil products over Ukraine

AP - Europe imposed a ban Sunday on Russian diesel fuel and other refined oil products, slashing energy dependency on Moscow and seeking to further crimp the Kremlin's fossil fuel earnings as punishment for invading Ukraine.

The ban comes along with a price cap agreed by the Group of Seven allied democracies. The goal is allowing Russian diesel to keep flowing to countries like China and India and avoiding a sudden price rise that would hurt consumers worldwide, while reducing the profits funding Moscow's budget and war.

Diesel is key for the economy because it is used to power cars, trucks carrying goods, farm equipment and factory machinery. Diesel prices have been elevated due to recovering demand after the COVID-19 pandemic and limits on refining capacity, contributing to inflation for other goods worldwide.

The new sanctions create uncertainty about prices as the 27-nation European Union finds new supplies of diesel from the U.S., Middle East and India to replace those from Russia, which at one point delivered 10% of Europe's total diesel needs. Those are longer journeys than from Russia's ports, stretching available tankers.

Prices also could be



Cars and trucks drive on a highway in Frankfurt, Germany, Jan. 27, 2023. European Union governments tentatively agreed Friday Feb. 3, 2023, to set a \$100-per-barrel price cap on sales of Russian diesel to coincide with an EU embargo on the fuel - steps aimed at ending the bloc's energy dependence on Russia and limiting the money Moscow makes to fund its war in Ukraine. (AP Photo/Michael Probst, File)

driven up by reviving demand from China as the economy rebounds after the end of draconian COVID-19 restrictions.

The price cap of \$100 per barrel for diesel, jet fuel and gasoline is to be enforced by barring insurance and shipping services from handling diesel priced over the limit. Most of those companies are located in Western countries.

It follows a \$60-per-barrel cap on Russian crude that took effect in December and is supposed to work the same way. Both the diesel and oil caps could be tightened later.

“Once we have these price caps set, we can squeeze the Russian price and deny them, deny (President Vladimir) Putin money for his war without a price spike that’s going to hurt Western economies and developing economies,” said Thomas O’Donnell, a global fellow with the Washington-based Wilson Center.

The diesel price cap will not bite immediately because it was set at about what Russian diesel trades for. Russia’s chief problem now will be finding new customers, not evading the price ceiling. However, the cap aims to prevent Russian

gains from any sudden price spikes in refined oil products.

Analysts say there might be a price bump initially as markets sort out the changes. But they say the embargo should not cause a price spike if the cap works as intended and Russian diesel keeps flowing to other countries.

Diesel fuel at the pump has been flat since the start of December, costing 1.80 euros per litre (\$7.37 per gallon) as of Jan. 30, according to the weekly oil market report issued by the European Union’s executive

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UK's shortest-serving PM Liz Truss blames economic 'orthodoxy' for downfall

Reuters - Former British prime minister Liz Truss blamed on Sunday the economic "orthodoxy" in the country's finance ministry, other nations and in parts of the governing Conservative Party for derailing her premiership and "plan for growth".

Truss's tenure was cut short last year after her largely unfunded mini budget and tax cuts pushed up borrowing costs and mortgage rates, sent the pound tumbling and shattered Britain's reputation for financial stability.

Writing in the Sunday Telegraph newspaper in her first major foray into politics since the abrupt end to her premiership after just over six turbulent weeks in power, Truss wrote she believed her recipe for Britain by cutting taxes and removing some regulation was the right one.

But she was not successful, she wrote, because she had underestimated

"the blob of vested interests" and orthodoxy.

"I am not claiming to be blameless in what happened, but fundamentally I was not given a realistic chance to enact my policies by a very powerful economic establishment, coupled with a lack of political support," she wrote.

"I assumed upon entering Downing Street that my mandate would be respected and accepted. How wrong I was. While I anticipated resistance to my programme from the system, I underestimated the extent of it."

She blamed the reaction not only on what she described as the left-leaning orthodoxy of the economic establishment but also on liability-driven investments (LDI), which pension funds use to cover their obligations. LDI's were at the centre of the market turmoil following her mini-budget.

Truss also said she had underestimated "the resis-



British Prime Minister Liz Truss announced her resignation, outside Number 10 Downing Street, London, Britain October 20, 2022. REUTERS/Henry Nicholls

tance inside the Conservative parliamentary party to move to a lower-tax, less-regulated economy" and a drive on the global stage to "limit competition" between major economies.

"As I had spelled out during the leadership campaign, I wanted to go for growth ... But this was not in line with the instinctive views of the Treasury (finance ministry) or the wider orthodox economic ecosystem."

Grant Shapps, busi-

ness minister, said everyone wants lower taxes but Prime Minister Rishi Sunak's government had to focus on reducing debt, bringing down inflation and boosting growth first.

Britain's opposition Labour Party said it was time for a change of government.

"The Conservatives crashed the economy, sank the pound, put pensions in peril and made working people pay the price through higher mortgages for years to come," said Rachel Reeves, Labour's financial policy chief.

"After 13 years of low growth, squeezed wages and higher taxes under the Tories, only Labour offers the leadership and ideas to fix our economy and to get it growing."

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commission. Pump prices in Germany, the EU's largest economy, fell 2.6 cents to 1.83 euros per litre (\$7.48 per gallon) as of Jan. 31.

The ban provides for a 55-day grace period for diesel loaded on tankers before Sunday, a step aimed at avoiding ruffling markets. European Union officials say im-

porters have had time to adjust since the ban was announced in June.

Russia earned more than \$2 billion from diesel sales to Europe in December alone as importers appear to have stocked up with added purchases ahead of the ban.

Europe has already banned Russian coal and most crude oil, while Moscow has cut off most shipments of natural gas.

Amanda Serrano sets up Katie Taylor rematch in Dublin with win over Erika Cruz

BBC - Amanda Serrano's rematch with Katie Taylor was confirmed after she became undisputed featherweight world champion with a unanimous points win over Erika Cruz in New York on Saturday.

The three judges scored the fight 98-92 98-92 97-93 in Serrano's favour.

Ireland's Taylor, who beat Serrano on points last April, joined the Puerto Rican in the ring to say the rematch would take place on 20 May in Dublin.

"This is more than a dream come true," said lightweight champion Taylor.

"My debut in Ireland against Amanda Serrano, 'The Real Deal' Amanda Serrano. This is incredible. The last fight was epic, and I expect nothing less for the next one."

Taylor is undisputed champion in the lightweight division, while 34-year-old seven-weight champion Serrano became the first Puerto Rican fighter to unify all the belts in a division.

Also on the Madison Square Garden card, American Alycia Baumgardner became undisputed champion in the super-featherweight division.

The 28-year-old continued her meteoric rise with victory over France's Elhem



Katie Taylor (left) joined Amanda Serrano in the ring following the Puerto Rican's victory over Erika Cruz

Mekhalel.

Baumgardner twice knocked down the challenger before being awarded the victory 99-89, 99-89, 98-90 on points.

It is the first time two new undisputed champions have been crowned in a single night in the four-belt era.

Serrano too strong for Cruz

Serrano went into the contest as a strong favourite in her 47th professional fight, and 17th with a world title on the line.

But Cruz's aggressive style made things difficult for her early on before she settled into what proved to be an intense encounter with the pair constantly throwing punches.

Cruz suffered a cut to her head in the third round after an accidental clash and despite the fear the fight could be stopped, she continued to fight hard.

Serrano came close to knocking down her opponent in the sixth round, but Cruz held on before suffering her first loss in almost seven years.

"Erika was a Mexican champion, she worked hard, that's what we trained for," said Serrano. "I didn't expect anything less than what she gave me this night.

"They sent me back to basics and I was listening to my corner who asked me to go 1-2, which worked."

Much of the talk before the fight had been about the

rematch between Serrano and Taylor with the Irish-woman ringside on Saturday.

The 2012 Olympic champion beat Serrano by a split points decision when they met in the first women's bout to headline a boxing card at Madison Square Garden last April.

Their rematch is scheduled to take place at Dublin's 3Arena after negotiations between the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) and promoters Matchroom to stage it at Croke Park fell through over "security costs".

But on Friday, Irish mixed martial arts fighter Conor McGregor offered to provide £500,000 to pay for the security bill.

Tottenham Hotspur defeat Manchester City 1-0

By Neil Johnston

BBC -- Harry Kane became Tottenham's all-time record scorer, surpassing the great Jimmy Greaves, as his 267th goal for the club dented Manchester City's title ambitions at a raucous Tottenham Hotspur Stadium.

The England captain reached the landmark with a composed finish from 10 yards out after Pierre-Emile Hojbjerg did exceptionally well to find Kane inside the box.

Fans jumped from their seats to applaud the 29-year-old striker, whose first Spurs goal came on 15 December 2011, while a message flashed up on the scoreboard inside the ground which read 'Congratulations Harry Kane'.

The 15th-minute finish was also Kane's 200th on the Premier League stage - only Alan Shearer (260 goals) and Wayne Rooney (208) have scored more.

It came against the run of play and with Spurs boss Antonio Conte recovering at home after surgery to remove his gallbladder.

Tottenham, who finished with 10 men after defender Cristian Romero was sent off in the 87th minute for two bookable offences, dug deep in their Italian manager's absence to frustrate City.



Harry Kane's goal against Manchester City was his 17th in the Premier League this season - and 200th of his career on the Premier League stage

Pep Guardiola's side missed the chance to cut Arsenal's five-point lead at the top of the table following the Gunners' defeat at Everton on Saturday.

Riyad Mahrez went closest to equalising with an attempt which cannoned off the underside of the bar, but City are without a point - and a goal - in five visits to the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium.

While they remain five points behind Arsenal having played one game more, Tottenham's victory moves them one point behind fourth-placed Newcastle.

A fitting setting for memorable moment

Kane celebrated his historic strike with all the excitement of an 18-year-old - the age he was when he scored the first for Spurs

against Shamrock Rovers in the Europa League 12 years ago.

It was fitting it came at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium in front of his club's fans, who let out an almighty roar when the ball flew past City keeper Ederson.

Kane's 267 goals have come in 416 games, while Greaves reached 266 after 379 matches.

The only disappointment was his manager Conte was not present inside the ground to witness the goal.

The Italian was absent after his operation, with his assistant Cristian Stellini taking charge against City.

Kane's team-mates and Tottenham's coaching staff stayed out on the pitch after the final whistle as the forward was interviewed on the pitch and savoured the

moment.

Kane then listened to a message from Greaves' son, Danny, on the big screen congratulating the player on his amazing feat.

Outstanding Royal helps keep Spurs in top-four battle

This was the second Premier League meeting between the two sides in 17 days after Manchester City came from 2-0 behind to win 4-2 at Etihad Stadium on 19 January.

This time Spurs held firm with Emerson Royal producing some outstanding challenges as City tried to find a way back into a highly-competitive match.

Keeper Hugo Lloris kept out an attempt by Rodri and Julian Alvarez saw his goal-bound attempt de-

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Openers add century stand before rain ends opening day

CWI - Opening pair Kraigg Brathwaite and Tagenarine Chanderpaul provided a solid and stable start for West Indies on the opening day of the first Test against Zimbabwe on Saturday, before rain ended play early.

Captain Brathwaite was not out on 55 and left-hander Chanderpaul, playing his third Test, was not out on the same score, and the Caribbean side were 112 without loss in their first innings with only 51 overs possible before rain stopped play about half-hour before the scheduled tea break on the first day.

“I think the pitch looked good and I didn’t see much moisture in it,” Brathwaite said. “I think it’s important for us to get a big first innings total, and that’s pretty much it. I think the pitch was playing good.”

Brathwaite said:

“With rain around, we have to see how the pitch plays, so starting over [on Sunday] will be crucial. It’s important for me and Tage to go and start fresh [on Sunday] and continue to build the foundation for the team to get a big first innings total.”

The players never got a chance to return to the field with the weather wiping out the entire third and final session of play. There were several occasions when the ground-staff



removed the covers and a resumption seemed imminent before umpires Langston Rusere and Paul Reiffel decided to abandon play about half-hour before the scheduled close. Play on Sunday will therefore start at 9:30am (3:30am Eastern Caribbean/2:30am Jamaica).

Brathwaite and Chanderpaul hardly placed a foot wrong in giving West Indies a firm foundation after the visitors decided to bat on the easy-paced surface.

They became the 10th West Indies opening pair to feature in two century partnerships in Tests after they forged

a new alliance on the tour of Australia before Christmas last year – and it is the third time they have shared 50-plus in five innings.

Brathwaite needed 116 balls to reach his 50 when he drove pacer Victor Nyauchi through mid-off for three in the final over before the refreshments break in the second session of play.

Chanderpaul took 165 balls to reach the landmark with a confident pull through mid-wicket off left-arm pacer Richard Ngarava, for the seventh of his eight boundaries in the penultimate over before the rain stoppage.

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flected behind by Eric Dier.

In an absorbing game, the hosts had chances to extend the lead with Ben Davies heading narrowly over and Ederson denying Kane a second.

The final whistle was greeted by another huge roar as Spurs marked one

their best performances of the season with a crucial success which keeps them very much in the race to finish in the top four.

Day to forget for Haaland and City

This was a day to forget for City, who have now lost their last three league and cup games away from

home.

Guardiola opted to start with both Kevin de Bruyne and Ilkay Gundogan on the substitutes bench, while Phil Foden was absent after feeling unwell overnight.

While Kane made the headlines, Erling Haaland had a rare off day.

The striker, who lit up

the Premier League with 25 goals in his debut season in England, did not register a single shot and managed just 27 touches.

City will look to bounce back at home to Aston Villa next Sunday, before a mouth-watering top-of-the-table game at Arsenal on 15 February (19:30 GMT).

Mansingh and Cornwall shine as Scorpions salvage draw with Hurricanes

Jamaica's debutant all-rounder Abhijai Mansingh and Leeward Islands all-rounder Rahkeem "Jimbo" Cornwall produced some outstanding displays as the Scorpions and Hurricanes battled to an exciting draw in their opening-round West Indies Championship regional four-day match, which ended at the Coolidge Cricket Ground (CCG) on Saturday.

Mansingh had a debut to remember, as the right-hander put in a workman like performance with both bat and ball to help the Jamaica Scorpions hold on for a draw against the Leeward Islands Hurricanes.

In fading light with a crowd of fielders around their bat, Mansingh (62 not out) and last man Patrick Harty Jr (1 not out) resisted the penetrative and probing Hurricanes bowling in the last session of play, which ended when late evening showers in fading light sent the players off the field with Jamaica 200 for nine off 82 overs, chasing 268 to win.

But despite Mansingh's heroic display, the Leeward Islands squandered a great opportunity to win the match by dropping two crucial catches off the impressive bowling of Cornwall.

In only the second ball he faced, last man Patrick Harty Jr, who was on naught at the time, was dropped by Kieron Powell at silly point



Off-spinner Rahkeem Cornwall, left, and his Leeward Islands Hurricanes team mates make an unsuccessful appeal for LBW against Jamaica Scorpions batsman Abhijai Mansingh during their opening round West Indies Championship regional four-day match at the Coolidge Cricket Ground on Saturday, 4th February, 2023. (Photo courtesy CWI)

off the bowling of Cornwall, with Jamaica on 194 for nine in the 73rd over.

Three overs later, Mansingh, who was on 62 at the time, was dropped by Terrence Ward at first slip of Cornwall with Jamaica on 195 for nine in the 77th over.

Mansingh, a late replacement for Alwyn Williams who was ruled out of the match due to medical reasons, once again displayed his temperament by top scoring with 62 not out from 209 balls, with eight fours and a six.

The right-hander shared in five partnerships batting at number six, and in one of those partnerships, he added a valuable 92 runs with Jamie Merchant for the sixth wicket. The aggressive Merchant struck 47 from 56 balls with four fours and two sixes.

Once again, it was Rahkeem Cornwall who was the main destroyer, grabbing his second five-wicket haul of the match. The burly off-spinner picked up the wickets of Romaine Morrison for 22, captain Paul Palmer for six, Merchant for 47, Akim Fraser for one, and Gordon Bryan for naught, to finish with five for 41 and 10 for 95 in the match.

Earlier, it was Cornwall who also spruced up the Hurricanes' second-innings score, as his 85 from 95 balls helped the Leeward Islands to reach their second innings total of 241 all out in 73.5 overs after resuming the final day on 198 for seven.

Hayden Walsh Jr. chipped in with 23, while off-spinner Merchant captured four wickets for 43 runs, Mansingh took two

wickets for 30 runs and Harty Jr. claimed two wickets for 56 runs.

The Leewards had won the toss and batted, making a first innings total of 260 all out in 118.3 overs. Jeremiah Louis top scored with 78 not out, captain Jahmar Hamilton struck 40 and opener Montcin Hodge scored 37.

Marquino Mindley claimed three for 28, Mansingh took three for 47 and Gordon Bryan picked up two for 52.

In reply, Jamaica were dismissed for 234 in 82.4 overs in their first innings. Opener Leroy Lugg top scored with 79, Mansingh struck 56 and captain Palmer chipped in with 47. Cornwall grabbed five for 54, pacer Sheno Berridge picked up two for 25 and Colin Archibald captured

cont'd on pg 23

Greene City maintains second place despite surprising loss

Green City remains in second place in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) First Division League despite losing their third game this season last Friday.

Potters Tigers scored two late goals in added on time to pull off a surprising 3-2 victory over Green City in their first division affair at the ABFA's Technical Center.

Delon Moore snatched the winner for Potters Tigers when he scored in the fourth minute off added on time (90+4 minutes). Moore struck the winner just one minute before Ordel Samuel scored his second of two goals to snatch an equalizer for Potters Tigers in the third minute of added on time (90+3 minutes).

Moore had scored his first goal of the game in the 15th minute to give Potters Tigers a 1-0 halftime lead. But Ngozie Harvey scored two goals in the second half, netting in the 59th and 79th minutes to tilt the



Green City FC retain their second place position in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's First Division League despite losing their third game this season on Friday, 3rd February, 2023. (File photo)

match in Green City's favour.

However, the two late conversions by Samuel and Moore turned the game on its head and gave Potters Tigers their shocking victory.

Despite the result, Green City remains in second place with 21 points from 10 matches. They are

four points behind leaders Garden Stars, who have two games in hand.

Their second win in 10 matches lifted Potters to nine points and third from bottom of the standings on goal difference.

Lion Hill scored one minute before the end of regulation to clinch their fourth win of the season on

Thursday.

David Desilva scored the lone goal of the match in the 89th minute to snatch a 1-0 win for Lion Hill against JSC Progressors at the Golden Grove playing field.

The win lifted Lion Hill into sixth place in the standings with 13 points from nine matches, while their eighth loss in 10 outings ensured that JSC Progressors remain firmly rooted in the cellar position of the 12-team competition with four points.

John Hughes consolidated their position in third place behind leaders Garden Stars and Green City

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two for 37.

Meanwhile, Pacer Nial Smith, bagged five second-innings wickets to lead the Guyana Harpy Eagles to a 183-run win over the Barbados Pride in their opening match at the Sir Vivian Richards Cricket Stadium.

The West Indies four-day competition will continue with the second round of

matches from 8th to 11th February in Antigua and Barbuda and Grenada.

The Barbados Pride will meet the Jamaica Scorpions at Coolidge Cricket Ground; Trinidad & Tobago Red Force will travel to face the Leeward Islands Hurricanes at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium and the Guyana Harpy Eagles will take on the Windward Islands Volcanoes at the Grenada National Stadium.

Sports News



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by securing a 2-0 win against Bendals in the second match of a double-header at the ABFA's Technical Center.

Deno Bryan had a 27th minute conversion and Troy Jules scored in the 75th minute to lead John Hughes to their sixth win in 10 matches. The result propelled John Hughes to 20 points, one point behind Green City.

Bendals remain in fourth place after suffering their fourth loss in 10 appearances.

Dimitri Scotland and Nijah Hope each scored a brace as Police trounced West Ham 7-2 in the opening game of the first division double-header at the ABFA's Technical Center.

Brandon Michael scored the opening goal for Police in the 12th minute and Scotland had his first

conversion in the 29th minute to double his team's advantage.

Vaughn Richards reduced West Ham's deficit with a 38th minute conversion, which allowed Police to take a 2-1 lead at halftime.

Terrel Richards extended the lead by converting a penalty in the 48th minute and Hope scored his first goal in the 53rd minute to give Police a 4-1 advantage.

Orel Edwards scored West Ham's final goal in the 59th minute, and one minute later, Hope converted his second goal of the match to give Police a 5-2 lead.

Scotland added his second goal in the 73rd minute and Cecil Daley sealed his team's victory by scoring the final goal of the match for Police in the 84th minute.

Their fourth win in 10 appearances allows Police to overtake

Young Lions into fifth place with 14 points, while West Ham slipped to second from bottom of the standings with eight points after succumbing to their sixth loss in 10 outings.

TaiemTonge scored a hat-trick as Bolans recorded a 4-1 victory over Fort Road at the Bolans playing field.

Tonge had conversions in the 51st, 76th and 77th minutes while an own-goal, scored by Fort Road's Jafari Thomas in the 71st minute, accounted for Bolans' other goal.

Alren Lewis scored a consolation goal in the 58th minute for Fort Road who slumped to their fifth loss in nine encounters to slip to eighth place with 10 points.

The fourth win in eight matches also allows Bolans to overtake Young Lions into seventh place on goal difference. Both teams have 12 points, but Bolans has a game in hand.

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Old Road Daggers beat United in Division 2 basketball

Old Road Daggers romped to an 18-point win over Raeburn Generators United in the Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) Second Division League on Saturday evening.

Ariel Quallis produced a game-high 41 points with eight rebounds, six assists and six steals to lead Old Road Daggers to their 90-72 victory over United in

their Zone 1 affair at the JSC Sports Complex.

He was well supported by teammate Ezekiel Francois, who sank 14 points and grabbed 15 rebounds.

Kwame Huntley converted 29 points and snapped up 17 rebounds and Jesus Lopez scored 25 points, pulled down 12 rebounds and snatched seven steals for Raeburn Generators United.

Wadadli Elites2 snatched a narrow two-point win over the Honourable Gaston Browne Pointvill Ballers on Thursday, 2nd February.

Wadadli Elites2 prevailed 64-62 in their Zone 2 affair in the first game of a double-header at the JSC Sports Complex.

Kevin Pimentel converted 18 points and snatched six rebounds,

while Devante Carter produced 16 points with 10 rebounds, six assists and five steals for Wadadli Elites2.

Tahj Kirby shot a game-high 24 points and grabbed 17 rebounds, Khalid Shabazz snapped up 26 rebounds and sank 14 points and Najee Simon scored 12 points and secured nine rebounds for Pointvill Ballers.

Ottos Coolers trounced Jan Serv Fearless Crew2 85-33 in their Zone 1 affair in the second game of the double-header.

Lincoln Weekes top scored with 20 points, Malefi Joseph sank 16 points and snatched nine rebounds and Michael Barton sank 15 points and grabbed 23 rebounds for Ottos Coolers.

Daysher Samuels scored 10 points and secured seven rebounds for Fearless Crew2.

The ABBA second division league will continue with a Zone 2 double header at the JSC Sports Complex today, Monday, 6th February.

Honourable Daryll Matthew Ottos Clippers will take on Flyers2 at 6:45 pm, while Spanish Heat will clash with the Honourable Gaston Browne Pointvill Ballers at 8:30 pm.

cont'd from pg 26

was scored by Deonte Williams of Liberta in the 3rd minute, had given Cedar Grove an early 1-0 lead, but a Yasniel Espinoza's 34th minute conversion drew Liberta level as both teams entered the interval deadlocked 1-1 at halftime.

The score stayed that way until late in the second half when Makhai Browne scored in the 83rd minute to break the deadlock and gave Liberta a 2-1 lead.

But Darien Guerra snatched the first equalizer for Five Islands with an 86th minute conversion. The result left both teams still in search of their first win in the league competition.

Liberta Black Hawks remain in the cellar position with -4 (minus four) points from seven matches, while Five Islands stay second from bottom of the standings on two points after 10 outings.

Novelle Francis scored a brace as Willikies claimed their fifth win in nine matches by romping to a 5-1 victory over Pigotts Bullets 5-1 in Saturday's opening encounter.

Francis scored his first goal in the 22nd minute to give Willikies a 1-0 half-time lead.

Goals by Akeem Weekes in the 47th minute, Dennie Henry in the 57th minute and James Simon in the 69th minute extended Willikies advantage.

Francis completed his team's scoring with his second conversion in the 71st minute to give Willikies a 5-0 lead.

Tian Samuel scored a consolation goal for Pigotts Bullets one minute before the end of regulation with an 89th minute conversion.

The win lifted Willikies to 16 points, while their fifth loss in nine appearances ensured Pigotts Bullets will remain in 11th place with 10 points.

Hoppers beat Parham 2-0 in the opening fixture of the 10th week of premier league matches on Friday.

Javorn Stevens converted a penalty in the 2nd minute and Ammiel Joseph scored in the 80th minute to wrap up the fourth win in nine matches for Hoppers, who advance to 13 points.

The sixth loss in 10 appearances ensured Parham remain on eight points.

The final encounter in the 10th week of matches will be contested this evening at the technical center. Tryum will clash with Empire at 7 pm.

Grenades win to stay second; Willikies trounce Bullets in Premier League

Jennings Grenades consolidated their second place position in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Premier Division League by snatching a narrow victory over Cedar Grove Blue Jays last Saturday.

Following a goalless first half, Donovan Jno-Baptiste scored with a 74th minute strike to propel Jennings Grenades to a 1-0 victory over Cedar Grove Blue Jays in the second match of a triple-header at the ABFA's Technical Center.

Their eighth win in 10 matches lifted Jennings Grenades to 24 points, the same as leaders All Saints United.

However, Jennings Grenades remain second on goal difference behind All Saints United, who had a game in hand.

It was the sixth loss in nine matches for Cedar Grove Blue Jays who remain third from bottom of the 16-team competition



Jennings Grenades consolidated their second place position in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's Premier Division League by snatching a narrow victory over Cedar Grove Blue Jays at the ABFA's Technical Center on Saturday, 4th February. (File photo)

with seven points.

Five Islands and Liberta Black Hawks fought to a 3-3 draw in a bottom of the table clash in Saturday's featured match.

Tony Sanchez scored a penalty in the ninth min-

ute of added on time (90+9 minutes) to equalize and salvage the draw for Five Islands.

Before Sanchez's late equalizer, Shavorn Phillip appeared to have struck the winner and secured the

first win of the competition for the Black Hawks when he scored in the third minute of added on time (90+3 minutes) to give Liberta a 3-2 lead.

An own goal, which *cont'd on pg 25*