



ANTIGUA & BARBUDA

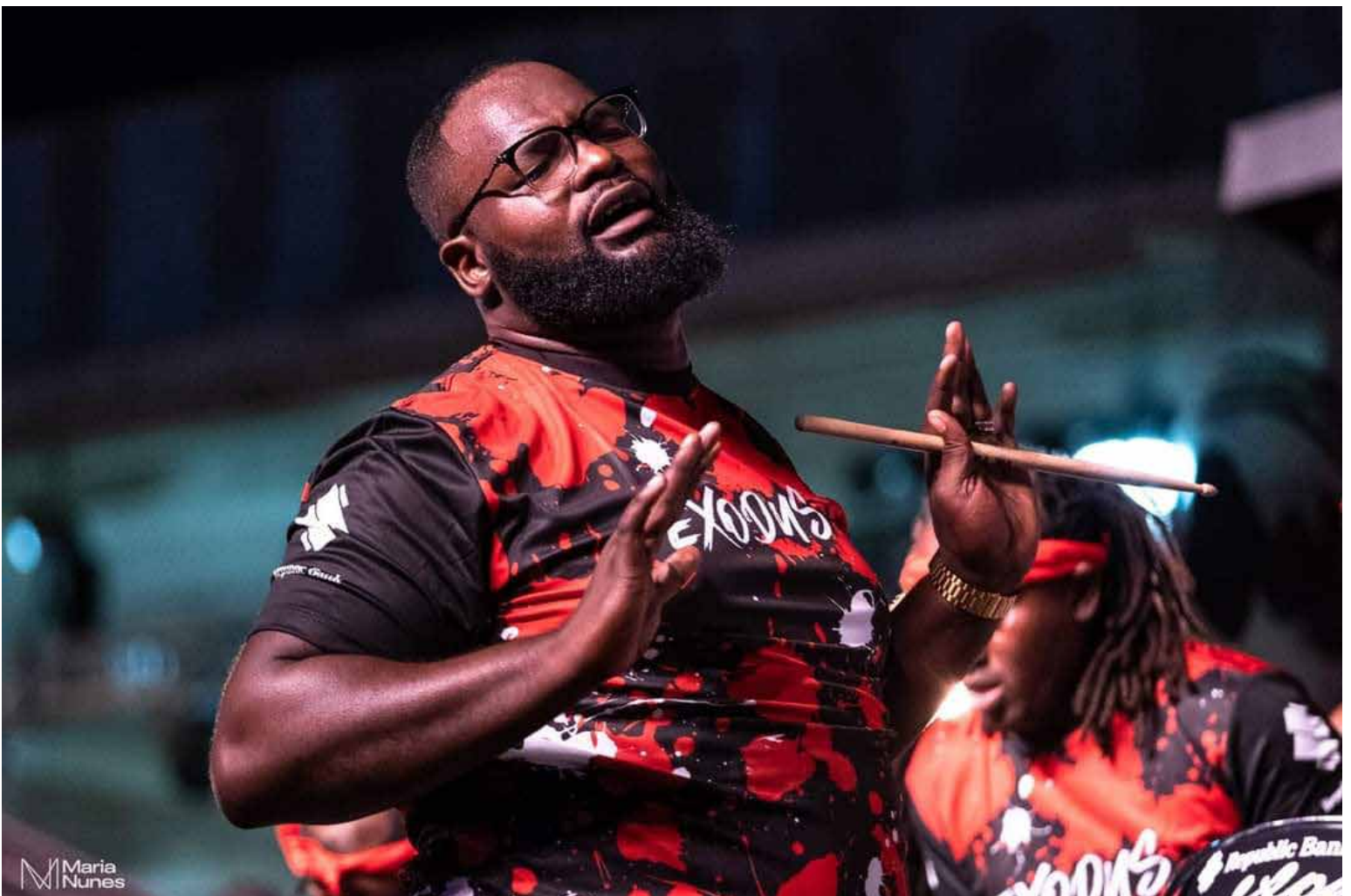
POINTVILLE EXPRESS

TRUSTED NEWS AND RESPECTED VIEWS

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DWELL IN LOVE & UNITY: BARBUDA COUNCIL, GOV'T STRIKE TRUCE

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Director of Culture, Khan Cordice, seen here in his element as drill master for Republic Bank Exodus Steelband in Trinidad and Tobago for Carnival 2023. The band, with its selection 'Tourist Leggo' made popular by King Short Shirt, placed second in the National Panorama 2023 Large Conventional Semi Finals on 5th February, 2023. The finals of the competition will be held on 18th February, 2023 at the Queens Park Savannah, Port-of-Spain. [Photo Credit: Republic Bank Exodus Steelband]

Maria Nunes

Central gov't, Barbuda Council commit to improve relationship

The Barbuda Council and central government in Antigua have committed to improve the relationship between the islands as they work toward the common goal of the development of the unitary state of Antigua and Barbuda.

The agreement to thaw relations resulted from the first meeting between the new minister of Barbuda Affairs, E. P. Chet Greene, and the Barbuda Council in Codrington on Tuesday.

Greene told the councillors that it was his hope that his visit would set the stage for a more harmonious relationship between the council and the central government.

“We have come a long way as a nation, but we have more to accomplish, much more to do, as together, I believe that we can achieve the goals and the dreams of our people,” Greene said.

He added that as Barbuda’s economic space develops, it is his hope that as minister responsible for Barbuda, he will be able to seriously engage the council to assure the economic build out of Barbuda for the benefit of the island’s people.

“We may not always agree on the vehicle, but am sure that we can agree on the destination. It’s about our country and the build out of one state; Antigua and Barbuda,” Greene declared.



Minister of Barbuda Affairs, E. P. Chet Greene and his delegation with members of the Barbuda Council

The council members present, who included chairman, Mackenzie Frank, and the island constituency’s parliamentary representative, Trevor Walker, agreed that the development of Barbuda will necessitate a more cordial relationship between the council and central government.

Councilor Devon Warner called for an end to the hostility that has existed between Barbuda’s administrators and the Antigua-based central government and called for the council to give full cooperation to the government for the benefit of Barbuda and its people.

At the start of Tuesday’s meeting, the council proposed a six-point agenda for discussion.

The areas of priority



Minister Greene was welcomed to Codrington by the chairman of the Barbuda Council, Mackenzie Frank.

included arrears in salaries and wages, the timely transfer of grant funding, infrastructural development and maintenance of roads and the repairs of the government-owned buildings damaged by Hurricane Irma, telecommunications, fisheries export and the resumption of the vocational training programme.

Minister Greene demon-

strated the government’s willingness to negotiate and compromise on issues presented by the Barbuda Council with a view to a mutually satisfactory resolution.

The next meeting between the government and Barbuda Council will take place in St. John’s, however, a date has not yet been set.



Dr. Dario Item

UNWTO welcomes Antigua and Barbuda

The United Nations World Tourism Association (UNWTO) has identified tourism's potential to drive economic growth and social opportunity in its newest member, Antigua and Barbuda.

Antigua and Barbuda's ambassador to Spain, Dr. Dario Item, and the embassy's Advisor, Daniel Yakovlev, were welcomed to the UNWTO headquarters in Madrid recently to strengthen Antigua and Barbuda's cooperation with the organisation.

Dr. Item has been the country's Permanent Representative to UNWTO since it became a member in 2021.

Welcoming the delegation, UNWTO Secretary-General Zurab Pololikashvili, commended the leadership of Prime Minister Gaston Browne and congratulated him on his recent

re-election.

He also sent his thanks to Minister of Tourism, Civil Aviation, Transport and Investment, Charles Fernandez, for his ongoing support.

In 2021, Antigua and Barbuda welcomed around 170,000 international arrivals and generated revenue within the sector of US\$490 million.

The official visit to the UNWTO headquarters took place within the framework of the 2023 FITUR tourism trade fair in Madrid.

FITUR is the global meeting point for tourism professionals and the leading trade fair for incoming and outbound markets in Ibero-America. It is a global reference in the tourist sector including great diversity and talent, enabling areas that are totally specialised to be at this event.

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.



Government of Antigua & Barbuda

Ministry of Education, Sports & Creative Industries
Government Complex, Queen Elizabeth Highway
St. John's, Antigua
Tel: 462-0192/462-0193/462-0198/462-0199
Overseas: 268-462-4959/1051
Fax: 268-462-4970

OAS Scholarship Application Announcement

The Organization of American States announces its 2023 call for scholarship applications for undergraduate and graduate academic studies and graduate research.

More information can be obtained through the links listed below.

- Call for applications for Graduate Studies: https://www.oas.org/en/scholarships/Academic_Program_OAS_2023.asp
- Call for applications for Undergraduate Studies: https://www.oas.org/en/scholarships/specaf_2023.asp
· Scholarship application form for Undergraduate Studies (last two years of a Bachelor's degree): <https://www.oas.org/fms/Announcement.aspx?id=1137&Type=1&Lang=Eng>
- Scholarship application form for Graduate Studies: <https://www.oas.org/fms/Announcement.aspx?id=1136&Type=1&Lang=Eng>

Deadline for submission of applications and accompanying documents to the Director of Education, Ministry of Education, Sports and Creative Industries is Friday 31st March, 2023.

Dane Hamilton Jr. appointed temporary magistrate

Attorney-at-law, Dane Hamilton Jr., has been appointed as a temporary magistrate with effect from 6th February, 2023.

Hamilton made his first appearance on the bench at the St. John's Magistrates' Court a day later.

Magistrate Hamilton will first preside over a short list of criminal matters before the St. John's Magistrates' Court before turning his attention to civil matters where a major backlog of cases exists.

His appointment comes at a critical time for the magistracy which is down by two magistrates.

Magistrates Conliffe Clarke and Craig Christopher are both overseas at-



Dane Hamilton Jr.

tending to personal matters. Their absence has caused a strain on the effective operation of the court.

With Magistrate Christopher expected to return to the bench in March, Hamilton's temporary addition will reduce the court's civil matter workload.

Dane Hamilton Jr. operates a private legal practice alongside his father, Dane Hamilton Sr. KC.



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ABWU, A. S. Bryden agree on employee salary increase

The Antigua and Barbuda Workers' Union (ABWU) has successfully negotiated a 9 percent salary increase for employees of A. S. Bryden Antigua Ltd.

According to the ABWU, the increase will be implemented in increments of 3 percent over a period of three years.

A. S. Bryden's Human Resource Officer, Lucette James, said the wholesale distribution company and the union have forged a long-standing relationship "based on mutual respect, trust and communication".

James added that the company recognised that "employees had been through a lot" over the past two years and had been "extraordinarily patient".

The HR officer described the negotiations as cordial and commended the newly assigned ABWU Industrial Relations Officer, Hugh Joseph, for facilitating a smooth transition.

James also heaped praise on the employees' shop steward, Kenard Bonnie, whom she credited with providing sound leadership for the staff.

James added that the A.S. Bryden Antigua Ltd. is hopeful for the future and considers the new

agreement an investment in its employees.

Meanwhile,

ABWU's Joseph said the discussions yielded a satisfactory outcome and added

that the union is eagerly anticipating the next round

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CARIBBEAN TOURISM ORGANIZATION

has a vacancy for a

SECRETARY GENERAL & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

JOB SUMMARY

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

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

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

Please visit our website at:

www.OneCaribbean.org

for a detailed job description and further details.

The deadline for applications is 3 March 2023

Local News



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of negotiations.

The new Collective Agreement covers the period January 2023 – December 2025.

Last week, the ABWU announced that it had secured a wage increase on behalf of line staff at KFC Antigua for the period 1st October, 2022 to 30th September, 2025.

The increase will be Year 1 - \$15/weekly; Year 2 - \$13/weekly and Year 3 - \$13/weekly.

The starting wage for new hires will also increase from \$9.00 per hour to \$9.50.

Additionally, it was agreed that some employees, based on their years of service, will benefit from further wage adjustments.



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Presentation at Christian Union Junior Academy.

Hands Across the Sea donates books to local schools

Two schools will benefit from the gift of books as a result of the partnership between Hands Across the Sea and CIBC FirstCaribbean that was established four years ago to support libraries in the OECS.

Presentations were made on Wednesday 1st February, 2023 to the All Saints Secondary School

and Christian Union Junior Academy.

Speaking at the presentation at All Saints Secondary School, Executive Director of Hands Across the Sea, Amanda Sherlip, noted that over the four years of the partnership, the FirstCaribbean Com-Trust Foundation has given US\$110,000.00 to the proj-

ect. "In Antigua alone, 103 library projects, from pre-schools through to secondary schools and community groups have benefited.

"We believe it is important to purchase and donate new, relevant, interesting and culturally responsive books. We are committed to buying new books be-

cause motivational reasons to read keep changing."

The bank's Country Head, Ladesa James-Williams, who is also a published author, also encouraged the students to read every day.

"Read every day. It is my commitment to reading every day that has contributed largely to my personal success that moved me from a humble little country girl to a mature bank manager. So read, read, read and increase your knowledge."

Education Officer attached to the Library Services department in the Ministry of Education, Karen Browne-Francis,

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Wed 08 Day		Wed 08 Night	
80°	☀️	74°	☁️
20%	ENE 16 mph	22%	ENE 15 mph
Sunshine and clouds mixed. High near 80F. Winds ENE at 10 to 20 mph.		Partly cloudy. Low 74F. Winds ENE at 10 to 20 mph.	
Humidity 73%	UV Index 10 of 10	Humidity 79%	UV Index 0 of 10
Sunrise 6:36 am	Sunset 6:06 pm	Moonrise 8:36 pm	Moonsset 8:30 am
		○ Waning Gibbous	



Antigua Cruise Port

JOB OPPORTUNITY

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



Hands Across the Sea Executive Director, Amanda Sherlip, reading to students.

cont'd from pg 7
 thanked CIBC FirstCaribbean and Hands Across the Sea for their ongoing commitment to literacy and their support of libraries in

Antigua and Barbuda. Respected educators, Vernest Mack and Hyacinth Gonsalves-Barreiro are the Hands Literacy Links in Antigua and Barbuda.

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Managing workplace conflict

Merriam-Webster's dictionary defines conflict as a competitive or opposing action of incompatibles based on divergent ideas, interests or persons. More specifically, workplace conflict can be defined as a strong difference of opinion that occurs in the workplace. It may start as a simple complaint or just a difference of opinion.

A favourite quote of one of our now deceased media personalities was that "*difference of opinion makes a horse race*". Now, as exciting as a horse race is, they are loud, and constant noise can prove to be a distraction. The same can be said of any protracted disagreement between work colleagues. They eventually turn into distractions that take time and effort away from collaborating towards accomplishing organizational goals.

The causes of workplace conflict can vary from simple miscommunication that leads to misunderstanding, differences in belief systems based on background and perception, and different cultural practices and experience.

Douglas Reid, a business strategy professor and researcher said, "we fight not because we truly disagree but because we fail to understand each other". Conflict can also arise from unresolved past issues, ineffective leadership, jockey-



ing for position and unclear work assignments or inequity in the division of labour.

According to the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM), workplace conflict is inevitable when employees of various backgrounds and different work styles are brought together for a shared business purpose. Conflict can and should be managed and resolved.

It is inescapable that if conflict is not managed properly and swiftly it can be extremely detrimental to the team dynamics, productivity, morale and ultimately damaging to business performance. The Thomas-Kilmann conflict resolution model suggests five methods of conflict resolution: avoidance, competition, collaboration, accommodation and compromise. However, when the relationship and the goals are important to the parties in conflict, compromise through negotiation is thought to be the

best approach to achieve a win-win resolution.

So, what is the HR professional's role in managing conflict so that it does not distract from the mission and goals of our respective organizations? While the first response to handling workplace conflict rests with the employees who are at odds with each other, employers, represented by HR, have a role to play.

Encourage a workplace culture that is strong on employee relations, and advocates fairness, trust and mutual respect at all levels. Start by asking managers, supervisors and team leaders to be accountable and model the behaviour they seek. Encourage consistency and honesty at every level even when it is difficult, remembering to be patient as our teams comprise of individuals and are not homogeneous.

Create and manage conflict resolution training programmes. Include con-

flikt resolution training for supervisors and managers as part of their professional development. When conflict resolution is mentioned, most persons immediately think of mediation. However, a large part of conflict management is teaching team members how to handle disagreements and how to preemptively handle issues. Workplace sessions on emotional intelligence and how to cultivate healthy interpersonal relationships could be helpful.

Develop workplace policies designed to handle conflict among employees as expeditiously as possible. Most times HR becomes aware of workplace conflict after it has been escalated. Putting procedures in place for the organization that outline progressive guidelines on how to deal with conflict is recommended.

Employees should be encouraged in the first instant to work out their dif-

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Mia Mottley reiterates call for international community to reconsider lending policies to SIDS

Barbados Prime Minister, Mia Mottley, Monday reiterated a call for the international community to re-think its lending policies toward small island developing states (SIDS) like those in the Caribbean, noting that some regional countries are faced with debt burdens because of having to deal with the impact of climate change.

“We also need to recognize that having arbitrary numbers for debt sustainability in the context of small island developing states does not work,” Mottley said as she addressed the Caribbean launch of the United Nations Early Warning for All (EW4ALL) initiative.

She said Barbados, for example, has been doing

coastal preparations since the 1980s and “part of our debt is in fact to prevent the worst to our coastal environment.

“For every dollar of prevention, you save seven dollars in recovery in expenditure. We know that. But when you are then told your debt to GDP (gross domestic product) does not admit of you spending enough money to renew a school infrastructure that that is more than ...200 years, 250 years in some instances, how then do you provide the support systems for people to be relocated, both pre and in many instances post disaster”.

Mottley said Caribbean countries do not have the capacity “genuinely

to withstand serious hurricanes in this region that are category three and upwards,” adding “and if the international community does not understand that, then they do not understand our circumstances.”

The Barbados prime minister said when the countries understand the cause of the situation “it is not our behaviour or our values or our attitudes then we have a crisis.

“The problem is that the crisis is not unique to us. We are just the canaries and whatever we thought before, 2022 put paid I suspect, to many people’s doubts”.

She said the Jamaican-band Third World sang a tune titled “96 Degrees in the shade” but London and

Europe “told us differently last year when 108 and 110 degrees became the standard.

“In the winter, the notion that a state in the United States could be 30 degrees from the temperature of Mars is a sci-fi movie or book,” she said, noting that as temperatures begin to plunge to “we know we are in dangerous territory.

Mottley praised UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres for his “continued courage and compassion, his values and his global moral strategic leadership, but I ask all of us...to recognize that it is in doing these practical things, which yes do require funding...we are nothing if we want to walk this journey alone”.

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ferences and where that is not possible then a supervisor gets involved as mediator before it is escalated to HR. They should also be expected to value and respect their coworkers’ opinions and their right to express them, even when they differ from their own.

Policies should also include the procedures to be followed when investigating complaints and who will be tasked with listening to both parties air their issues and determining a course of action for redress that everyone can live with.

Verification of facts is important, and honest open communication, in a

respectful, supportive environment on neutral ground, free from interruptions is necessary.

In summary, managing conflict is crucial to meeting organizational goals. In a very diverse work team, with high performing team members, conflict should be expected from time to time. People managers should handle disagreements promptly and not allow them to fester. Remember to be fair and communicate clearly because in the end, conflict management is about listening, empathy and compromise.

The Human Resource Professionals of Antigua and Barbuda

(HRPAB) is a registered non-profit, professional association dedicated to the advancement of the HR profession for national development. We began informally in 2009 and legally registered in 2011. HRPAB’s growing membership represents private and public organisations as well as independent consultants specializing in one or more areas of human resource management and development. Membership is offered for three categories: professional, non-professional, and honorary. You may contact us via email at hrpro.ab@gmail.com or on Facebook and Instagram @HR-Pro268.

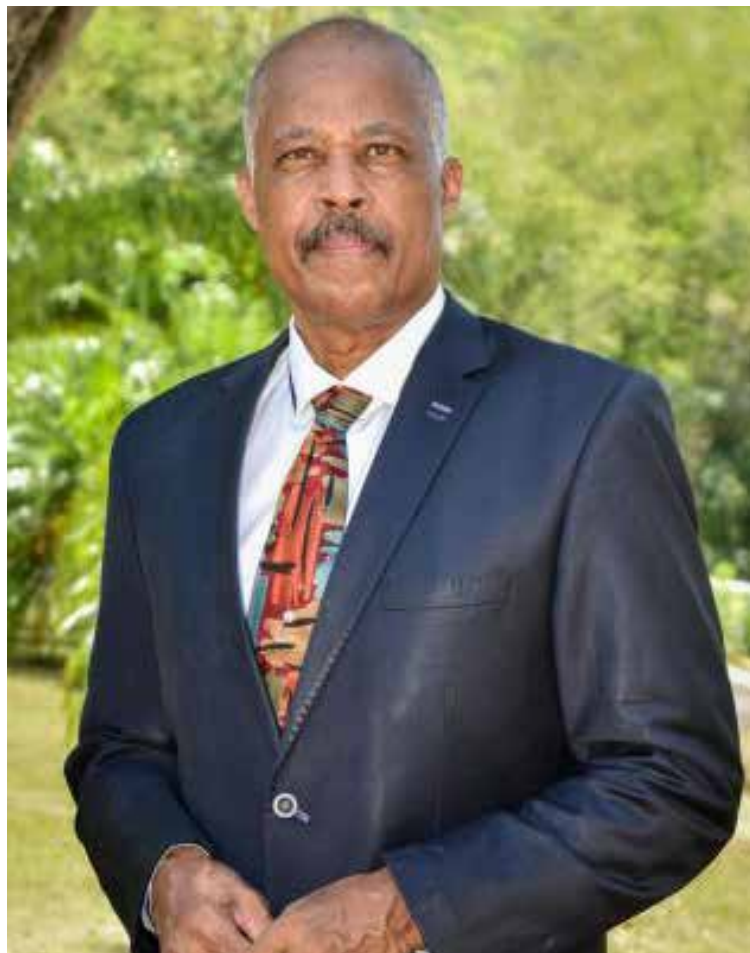
UWI launches digital transformation project

Vice Chancellor of the University of the West Indies (UWI), Professor Sir Hilary Beckles has warned that economies of regional countries are “sagging” and there is urgent need for a makeover.

“It doesn’t require much detailed assessment to recognize that the Caribbean economy pre-Covid, but now even clearer so post-Covid, the Caribbean economy is in need of new sources of entrepreneurial and innovative action and energy. We have to rebuild these economies,” Sir Hilary said during Monday’s official launch of the UWI digital transformation project titled “Empowering the UWI Revenue Revolution with Digital Transformation”.

The academic said the continued focus on “old sectors” was no longer yielding the desired economic and social benefits for the region, arguing that the time has come for greater focus on building out a more digital economy if the region is to remain competitive.

“Old sectors of the economy have to be reformed, they have to be energised, they have to be restructured; and we are in search of new economic drivers, new forms of converting knowledge into industry and into



UWI Pro-Vice Chancellor, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles

productivity production,”

“This is the time where the regional economy . . . has to be made over. We have to make-over this Caribbean economy. It is sagging, it is not as competitive as we would like it to be for all of the reasons – the world is moving ahead and the vehicle they are using to do this is the digital economy. The digital technologies are being implemented in sectors that are traditional and in the creation of new sectors,” Sir Hilary told the ceremony.

and the insurance company, Sagicor, as the other guarantors.

Sir Hilary said the UWI has been engaged in research over the past decade leading up to its digital transformation plan and the project is taking place “to serve the people of this region”.

He said the intention also is to make the regional premier tertiary institution, the “digital transformation epicentre of the Caribbean” assuring that the university would not be taking the resources and “throwing them into a technology black hole”.

He said UWI’s regional digital transformation was “not about buying hardware and stacking up the place with technological expressions.

“It is about ensuring that your main projects within the university can be empowered as a result, and defusing the technologies and the culture of that technology throughout the institution,” he said, adding that the university’s global campus is going to be the “digital transformation driver”.

The UWI project is also designed to help propel the learning institution’s reach globally and encourage innovative teaching and learning. (CMC)

The UWI said its digital transformation project is focused on five mission-critical operations across the university system: academics, knowledge resource, technology, finance, and administration.

The BDS\$12 million (One BDS\$=US\$0.50 cents) loan project is being funded by the Barbados-based Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) with the Barbados government standing as guarantor for two million dollars and the government of Antigua and Barbuda

ICJ sets time limits in Belize-Honduras border dispute

CMC - The Belize government Monday said the International Court of Justice (ICJ) has set May 2 for the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) country to file its Memorial in the dispute with Honduras regarding the sovereignty over the Sapodilla Caye.

Belize said its Ambassador Assad Shoman has advised the ICJ Registrar that Belmopan intends to file its Memorial on or before the deadline set by the Court.

Honduras has been given December 4, 2023 to file its counter Memorial.

Last November, the government said it had deposited its application with the ICJ Registrar as it seeks a final and binding resolution of the dispute with Honduras concerning sovereignty over the Sapodilla Cayes, including Seal Caye.

"The Government of Belize emphasises that it



has taken this measure to protect the vital interests of Belize in ensuring the full and final settlement of all outstanding territorial disputes to Belizean territory," the government said in a brief statement, adding "it has done so in support and furtherance of its friendly relations with Honduras".

In its application, which is posted on the website of

the Hague-based ICJ, Belize recalls that, "since the early nineteenth century, the Sapodilla Cayes have formed part of the territory of Belize, initially as part of the settlement of Belize and later the colony of British Honduras, and since 1981 as part of the independent State of Belize".

It argues that under international law, Belize is

sovereign over the Sapodilla Cayes and that the Honduran claim to the Sapodilla Cayes, "articulated in its 1982 Constitution, which remains in force as a matter of the internal law of Honduras, has no basis in international law".

The area in dispute is located in the southernmost group of islands/cayes in Belizean waters.

Haiti appoints council amid push to hold general elections

AP - Haiti's prime minister on Monday formally appointed a transition council charged with ensuring that long-awaited general elections are held in a country with no democratically elected institutions.

While many doubt the creation of the council will help the government hold elections this year as envisioned, Prime Minister Ariel Henry said it was a significant step toward that goal.

"It is the beginning of the end of the dysfunction of our democratic institutions," he said.

Haiti has failed to hold elections since the July 2021 assassination of President Jovenel Moïse. Henry assumed power shortly after Moïse's death, and promised that his administration would do so.

In early January, the terms of the remaining 10 senators expired, leaving

no elected officials in place for a country of more than 11 million people.

Henry called on all Haitians to unite and fight for change as the country continues to spiral, with poverty and hunger deepening and violence spiking. The prime minister also thanked the council's three members for agreeing to join the government in the "noble and thankless task of serv-

cont'd on pg 13

IACHR delegation visits Suriname

CMC - A technical cooperation and promotional mission from the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) arrived in Suriname on Monday on a three-day visit aimed at strengthening the Commission's relations with the Dutch-speaking Caribbean Community (CARICOM) country.

The IACHR said the visit is also aimed at promoting the technical cooperation mechanism, and institutional strengthening on human rights standards between state and non-state actors.

The delegation is led by Stuardo Ralón, first vice-president and rap-

porteur for Suriname and includes Margarete May Macaulay, the second vice-president. They are accompanied by a team of specialists from the executive secretariat representing different technical areas.

"The IACHR will have meetings with authorities and representatives of the State, as well as with representatives of non-state actors. The IACHR will promote technical cooperation on prioritised human rights issues.

"Also on the agenda is a set of training workshops on the Inter-American Human Rights System, the mechanisms of the IACHR, and their strategic use. The workshops are meant for

representatives of State institutions, civil society organisations, and other relevant actors," according to a statement issued by the Washington-based organisation.

It said the visit will be conducted within the framework of the actions that the IACHR highlighted as priorities when approving its Strategic Plan 2023-2027, particularly with respect to Program 17 on Prioritised Attention to the Caribbean.

The IACHR said the visit also responds to a medium-term work plan over the coming months agreed with the State, and takes place ten years after the Commission's last visit in 2013.

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ing our country in these difficult times."

The council's three members are Calixte Fleuridor with Haiti's Protestant Federation, who will represent civil society; Mirlande Manigat, a law professor and former first lady and presidential candidate who will represent political parties; and Laurent Saint-Cyr, president of the Haitian Chamber of Commerce, who will represent the private sector.

The council also will be responsible for working with government officials to reform Haiti's constitution, implement economic reforms and reduce violence as gangs continue to grow more powerful since the presidential assassination, leading to a rise in killings, kidnappings and rapes.

The High Transition Council, as it's known, also



Haitian Prime Minister Ariel Henry leaves at the end of a ceremony marking the anniversary of the Battle of Vertieres, the last major battle of Haitian independence from France at the National Pantheon Museum, in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Nov. 18, 2022. Henry on Monday, Feb. 6, 2023 formally appointed a transition council charged with ensuring that general elections are held, which would make them the first elections since the July 2021 assassination of President Jovenel Moïse. Henry assumed power shortly after Moïse's murder. (AP Photo/Odelyn Joseph)

will choose the members of a provisional electoral council that needs to be in place before election planning begins.

Henry stressed that elections can't be held un-

til Haiti becomes safer: "It would not be acceptable for the state to ask politicians to campaign if the state cannot guarantee their security," he said.

He noted that the new

council also supports his call for the deployment of foreign troops to help quell violence in Haiti, a request he made in October that remains unheeded by the U.N. Security Council.

Race to find survivors as quake aid pours into Turkey, Syria

AP - Search teams and emergency aid from around the world poured into Turkey and Syria on Tuesday as rescuers working in freezing temperatures dug — sometimes with their bare hands — through the remains of buildings flattened by a magnitude 7.8 earthquake. The death toll soared above 5,000 and was still expected to rise.

But with the damage spread over a wide area, the massive relief operation often struggled to reach devastated towns, and voices that had been crying out from the rubble fell silent.

“We could hear their voices, they were calling for help,” said Ali Silo, whose two relatives could not be saved in the Turkish town of Nurdagi.

In the end, it was left to Silo, a Syrian who arrived from Hama a decade ago, and other residents to recover the bodies and those of two other victims.

Monday’s quake cut a swath of destruction that stretched hundreds of kilometres (miles) across southeastern Turkey and neighbouring Syria, toppling thousands of buildings and heaping more misery on a region shaped by Syria’s 12-year civil war and refugee crisis.

Aftershocks then rattled tangled piles of metal and concrete, making the search



A woman sits on the rubble as emergency rescue teams search for people under the remains of destroyed buildings in Nurdagi town on the outskirts of Osmaniye city southern Turkey, Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2023. A powerful earthquake hit southeast Turkey and Syria early Monday, toppling hundreds of buildings and killing and injuring thousands of people. (AP Photo/Khalil Hamra)

efforts perilous, while freezing temperatures made them ever more urgent.

The scale of the suffering — and the accompanying rescue effort — were staggering.

More than 8,000 people have been pulled from the debris in Turkey alone, and some 380,000 have taken refuge in government shelters or hotels, said Turkish Vice President Fuat Oktay. They huddled in shopping malls, stadiums, mosques and community centres, while others spent the night outside in blankets gathering around fires.

Many took to social media to plead for assistance for loved ones believed to

be trapped under the rubble — and Turkey’s state-run Anadolu Agency quoted Interior Ministry officials as saying all calls were being “collected meticulously” and the information relayed to search teams.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said 13 million of the country’s 85 million were affected in some way — and declared a state of emergency in 10 provinces in order to manage the response.

For the entire quake-hit area, that number could be as high as 23 million people, according to Adelheid Marschang, a senior emergencies officer with the World Health Organization.

“This is a crisis on top of multiple crises in the affected region,” Marschang said in Geneva.

Teams from nearly 30 countries around the world headed for Turkey or Syria.

As promises of help flooded in, Turkey said it would only allow vehicles carrying aid to enter the worst-hit provinces of Kahramanmaraş, Adiyaman and Hatay in order to speed the effort.

The United Nations said it was “exploring all avenues” to get supplies to rebel-held northwestern Syria, where millions live in extreme poverty and rely on humanitarian aid to survive.

UK's Sunak shuffles cabinet to bolster pledges on economy

Reuters - British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak reshuffled his cabinet on Tuesday, breaking up two departments to better suit his pledges to spur the economy, reduce energy prices and turn around his party's fortunes before an election expected next year.

Sunak created a new energy security and net zero department, led by former business minister Grant Shapps, and three other departments, with one focusing on science and innovation, a personal passion for the British leader.

The former finance minister and multi-millionaire, who once worked for a hedge fund, is trying to steer the economy through a prolonged period of double-digit inflation and stagnation, a situation worsened by the soaring cost of energy.

He is also under pressure to try to prove his belief that Britain can reap the benefits of its departure from the European Union by developing new trade ties with international partners.

"The government needs to reflect the priorities of the British people and be designed to deliver for them," Sunak said on Twitter. "These changes will focus teams on the issues that will build a better future for our children and grandchildren."

He hailed the standalone energy and net zero ministry as one that would help



Britain's Prime Minister Rishi Sunak reacts as he leaves Teesside University in Darlington, Britain, January 30, 2023. Oli Scarff/Pool via REUTERS/File Photo

Britain gain greater energy security and start producing cheaper, cleaner energy to avoid the kind of price hikes people had to pay after Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

His spokesperson said the changes, which were welcomed and criticised in equal measure by business groups and green energy supporters, might not offer a "silver bullet" to all Britain's ills, but would help Sunak try to deliver on his agenda.

In the changes, trade Secretary Kemi Badenoch was given an expanded role including business and trade.

Former culture minister Michelle Donelan was appointed to run the department for science, innovation and technology, while former housing minister Lucy Frazer took on the new role for culture, media and sport.

Greg Hands, a former trade minister and one-time party enforcer for the Con-

servatives, was appointed party chair.

The timing surprised some in Sunak's party.

But after he fired his party chairman over his tax affairs and with an investigation into bullying allegations against his deputy prime minister Dominic Raab ongoing, several lawmakers said Sunak might be seizing a chance to stamp his mark.

Raab denies the allegations and Sunak told reporters he would wait for the end of the investigation before making a decision on his deputy premier.

"When I'm presented with conclusive, independent findings that someone in my government has not acted with the integrity or standards that I would expect of them, I won't hesitate to take swift and decisive action," he said.

Business leaders largely welcomed the changes, with

Confederation of British Industry's (CBI) Director-General Tony Danker saying on Twitter: "It's a clear statement of intent and a couple of big bets for growth. Though obviously (there is) quite a bit of bureaucracy to mitigate against."

But some climate campaigners, while welcoming the creation of an energy and net zero department, said they feared it could become too distant from other ministries such as business.

Sunak's appointment of Hands as party chair finally filled a position made ever more important before the next national election expected in 2024, after Nadhim Zahawi was sacked nine days ago over his tax affairs.

It was largely welcomed by a party which is deeply divided and increasingly assertive after ousting two prime ministers last year over scandal and economic chaos.

Since entering Downing Street in October, Sunak has been under pressure to set out his stall, with some in his party questioning whether he was overly managerial and lacked an overriding ideology or vision for Britain.

He has so far failed to reduce the commanding lead in opinion polls held by the opposition Labour Party, which is increasingly presenting itself as Britain's next government.

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In Peru's Andes, anger hardens as fast election hopes fade

Reuters - Protests and roadblocks in Peru's southern Andes have hardened after Congress failed to bring forward elections, jamming up much of the region, which is rich in copper and historic Incan sites like Machu Picchu.

Congress has rejected multiple bills for early elections, a key demand by protesters, including shelving a proposal by President Dina Boluarte on Friday.

Protests have snarled the Andean nation, with clashes between demonstrators and security forces leaving 48 dead. It is the worst violence in Peru in two decades, and threatens to destabilise one of the region's most reliable economies.

Reuters spoke to dozens of protesters across multiple blockades in southern Peru on Monday, some occupied by a handful of protesters while others had dozens, who see no solution besides continued protests after Congress' repeated failure to bring elections forward to 2023.

Congress is unusually fragmented. It has 13 voting blocs, caused in part by rules that allow a group of five



lawmakers to easily create a new one. The two largest parties have just 24 and 15 seats respectively, making it hard to reach majorities needed for legislation.

Adelma Quispe, a protester in the southern town of Ayavire, said protests would have calmed down if there had been an agreement on snap elections.

"But not anymore," Quispe said, standing behind a blockade of rocks, Peruvian flags and more than 20 protesters at the exit of Ayavire.

"So now, we have to fight until the last person, we have to fight until the very last one," Quispe said, adding that the blockade won't stop

until Boluarte resigns, new elections are called and a referendum is held for a new constitution.

Peru, the world's second-largest copper producer, has been hit by social unrest since the Dec. 7 ouster of leftist President Pedro Castillo.

Dozens of protesters have been killed in clashes with security forces, mostly in the nation's rural south, a poor region despite the mineral wealth.

"We want to denounce that so many of our brothers have been killed," said Leonardo Zamata, a protester blocking the entrance to Humachiri, a town near

the southern city of Juliaca. "How could this not hurt us, the most humble people?"

Zamata added that his town wouldn't lift the blockade until there were new elections. Zamata, Quispe and others say they have collected money to send people to protest in Lima, but are dedicated to maintaining blockades in their towns.

Throughout the region, protesters said they can survive on local crops and livestock, and outlast the capital until their demands are met.

"(Boluarte) has to resign. Until then, we'll keep fighting," Quispe said. "The Peruvian people will never get tired."

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Sunak promised in January to tackle Britain's most serious problems, from cutting inflation to fixing the National Health Service (NHS) and reducing illegal migration, aiming to convince his lawmakers he can lead them into the next election.

He has also passionately espoused the need for Britain to become the "next Silicon valley", pledging in January to increase public funding in research and development to 20 billion pounds (\$24.06 billion).

But Tim Bale, a professor of politics at Queen Mary University in Lon-

don, said even if some investors welcomed the move, he did not believe the departmental changes would make "a blind bit of difference to their fortunes at the next election".

"I am sure he will just get accused of shifting the deckchairs on the Titanic."

Manchester City's problems mount for manager Pep Guardiola

AP - Pep Guardiola had enough to worry about even before Manchester City became embroiled in probably the biggest Premier League scandal of all time.

Off the field, City is facing accusations that the club breached a slew of financial regulations with its lavish spending. On it, Guardiola faces his own battle to defend the league title and keep his team's season on track.

While City's position in the standings remains healthy enough, five points behind leader Arsenal in second place, Sunday's loss to Tottenham fed into a growing feeling that all is not right within the club. That was the case even before Monday's bombshell action by the Premier League.

Indeed, there has been a sense of unease and uncertainty around the club for much of the season. Erling Haaland is increasingly becoming a point of scrutiny when trying to decipher what is going wrong at City.

"Erling has been fantastic. No one says anything when he's scoring goals and winning," City defender Kyle Walker said. "All of sudden now when we don't win and he doesn't score, they say, 'Is it the problem? Do we play better without him?' I hear it all the time."

Walker has a point, but his comments also suggest



Manchester City's head coach Pep Guardiola reacts during the English Premier League soccer match between Manchester United and Manchester City at Old Trafford in Manchester, England, Saturday, Jan. 14, 2023. (AP Photo/Dave Thompson)

doubts from outside the club are filtering through to the players.

Haaland has been outstanding, scoring 31 goals in 27 games. Yet City has become more predictable as a result of having such a prominent target at centre forward.

In recent years, Guardiola has relied on goals from all over his team, making it more difficult for opposition defences to close down areas of threat. While City's total of 53 goals after 21 games is identical to its record at the same point last season, it has picked up eight points fewer.

Even with the addition of Haaland, City is finding it more difficult to win games — three less than at this stage last term.

The problems, however, do not rest on Haaland's shoulders alone. He is, after

all, producing remarkable numbers in front of goal. And Guardiola seems focused on other areas of his squad. Last month, he noted that a team that has won four of the last five league titles has lost its edge.

"We are far away from the team we had in previous seasons," Guardiola said. "Do you think we are going to chase the gap to Arsenal the way we are playing? No way."

With a squad packed with world class players, Guardiola has the luxury of leaving out some of his biggest names in a bid to freshen things up.

Phil Foden, one of the brightest young talents in Europe, has been a peripheral figure at times this season. Ruben Dias, voted player of the year in England and the best defender in the Champions League

in 2021, has not started a league game since October or any for City since November. Joao Cancelo was loaned to Bayern Munich on transfer deadline day after he was benched in recent weeks.

Most peculiar of all, however, was the decision to bench Kevin De Bruyne against Tottenham.

Guardiola is known for making unexpected calls, but to leave De Bruyne out of such an important game was a major statement that backfired as City lost 1-0 and missed out on the chance to cut Arsenal's lead to two points.

Guardiola seems to be searching for ways to get a reaction out of his squad at a point in the campaign when there is still all to play for. The departure of Cancelo and benching of De Bruyne look like drastic attempts to make his point, but also raise questions about what he will try to do next.

Guardiola is into his seventh year at City — he has never stayed at any club so long since becoming a coach. He may now have to oversee his most extensive squad rebuild since first taking over in 2016.

That is for the future, though. Right now, City is still in contention to win three trophies.

Solving the problems off the field, however, could be much more difficult.

Ticket demand, anticipation grows as LeBron nears Kareem

AP - Courtside seats 166 and 167 at the arena where the Los Angeles Lakers play their home games are pretty much as good as it gets.

The people occupying those chairs when LeBron James breaks Kareem Abdul-Jabbar's NBA scoring record will have an up-close view, with their feet on the very hardwood where the history-making shot happens.

History, in this case, comes with a cost.

On Monday, those seats for Tuesday's game against the Oklahoma City Thunder could have been had for \$75,000 — each. Total price for the two seats with Ticketmaster fees: \$181,500. And there's no guarantee James will even break the record Tuesday; in fact, at his current scoring pace, he would be just shy of the mark when the Thunder game ends.

Which is why those same seats are even pricier Thursday for the Lakers' next game against the Milwaukee Bucks — the two teams Abdul-Jabbar played for during his Hall of Fame career. For that game: \$242,000, including the fees. But history suggests prices will come down; industry experts have long said extravagantly priced tickets rarely fetch the giant number listed.



Los Angeles Lakers forward LeBron James moves the ball up court in the second half of an NBA basketball game against the New Orleans Pelicans in New Orleans, Saturday, Feb. 4, 2023. The Pelicans won 121-136. (AP Photo/Gerald Herbert)

Don't be mistaken, though. The best seats will still cost plenty.

"For the game on Thursday, we did sell a pair of tickets, courtside seats, for \$24,000 a ticket, \$48,000 total," said Kyle Zorn, a brand manager at the online ticket marketplace TickPick. "I feel like people are betting on the storyline that he does it against Kareem's former team, but he could easily score 36 points Tuesday

and then the market for the game Thursday could completely crash."

Whenever the record falls — maybe Tuesday, maybe Thursday, and it's doubtful the chase goes past that unless James isn't playing for some reason — it will be an event.

The NBA has already changed the national television schedule for Tuesday, rearranging things to get the Lakers-Thunder game into the second slot

of the usual TNT double-header for that night — with Commissioner Adam Silver saying the league wanted to make sure it got as many eyeballs on the record-breaking moment as possible.

The Lakers will be back on TNT against the Bucks on Thursday, plus have another national TV audience awaiting Saturday when they visit Golden State on ABC. Those

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Christian Atsu: Footballer 'removed from wreckage with injuries' after earthquake

BBC - Footballer Christian Atsu has been pulled from the rubble of a building "with injuries" after the earthquakes in Turkey, his club's vice-president Mustafa Özat has told Turkish radio.

Atsu, who plays for Hatayspor, was trapped after the earthquakes that have killed at least 4,800 people.

The ex-Ghana forward, 31, played 107 games for Newcastle and has had spells with Chelsea, Everton and Bournemouth.

Hatayspor sporting director Taner Savut is still in the collapsed building.

Hatay was one of the areas closest to the epicentre of the earthquake, and has suffered extensive damage.

"Christian Atsu was removed from the wreckage with injuries," Özat told Radyo Gol.

"Unfortunately, our sporting director Taner Savut is still under the rubble.



Christian Atsu signed for Hatayspor in September 2022

"Hatay was deeply affected. We are coming towards the end of the most dangerous hours."

Atsu, who won 65 caps for Ghana, joined Hatayspor in September 2022 after a season with Saudi Arabian team Al-Raed.

He scored the winning goal in the 90th minute of Hatayspor's Su-

per Lig match against Kasimpasa on Sunday.

The Ghanaian Football Association tweeted: "We've received some positive news that Christian Atsu has been successfully rescued from the rubble of the collapsed building and is receiving treatment. Let's continue to pray for Christian."

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were previously scheduled that way, no rearranging required.

Silver said the NBA will pay tribute when James passes Abdul-Jabbar's total of 38,387 points, with likely a larger-scale celebration of the record at All-Star weekend in Salt Lake City later this month.

"There's no doubt we will stop that game and make sure we record for history, the ball, the basket, the uniform," Silver said.

"We'll stop and make

sure that we've done our jobs as the archivists of the NBA. At the same time, there's that balance that they will be playing against a team that will very much want to win that night and not be distracted. Most likely we will do something in the moment."

Common sense will likely prevail there: If James gets the record with a minute to go in a close game, for example, the NBA probably won't interrupt the proceedings with a lengthy stoppage. If it happens early, a brief

halting of play wouldn't be unprecedented.

But for those who want to see it all happen in person, whether that's from courtside seats or the upper levels of the arena, it'll still cost a pretty penny.

Speaking Monday, and with the market likely to fluctuate until game time, Zorn said the cheapest get-in-the-door price for Tuesday's game was around \$176 — about half what it was a week ago, with most people guessing the record falls against the Bucks — and \$796 for Thursday's

game.

"It's weird how prices for the game on Tuesday have decreased so significantly, as if it's like a guarantee that he's breaking it on Thursday," Zorn said.

Many price points are likely out of reach for most fans. Then again, if there's a Thunder fan in L.A. who really wants to see their team, they might just want to wait for March 24. The Thunder will be back that night.

Cheapest ticket right now for that game — about \$60.



Patrick Mahomes and Jalen Hurts face each other on Sunday in Arizona at Super Bowl 57

Super Bowl 57: Patrick Mahomes and Jalen Hurts making NFL history in Arizona

By Paul Higham

There are always plenty of storylines around the Super Bowl, when just two teams are left standing from a punishing NFL season to take part in the biggest game in American sport. This year, though, there's one landmark that just seems a lot more important.

That's because when Patrick Mahomes leads out the Kansas City Chiefs to take on Jalen Hurts and the Philadelphia Eagles, it will be the first Super Bowl to have two black quarterbacks battling it out for the Lombardi Trophy.

It's a defining moment for the NFL, which has struggled with equality and representation in the upper echelons of the sport, as now finally at the very pinnacle of the game we have two black players operating in the most important position in the most

important game there is.

Even when all the focus for players is usually just on their tactics, their gameplans and their fitness, both Mahomes and Hurts realise the enormity of the situation, and the new ground they are breaking in hopefully inspiring a widespread change for the next generation.

"It's special," Mahomes said in the build-up to his third Super Bowl appearance on Sunday in Arizona. "There's so many great ones that haven't been recognised because of the stereotype of the black quarterback not being able to have sustained success.

"I'm glad that I'm able to be on this world stage with another quarterback in Jalen that's able to play at a high level and prove that we've been able to do this the whole time."

Hurts, at 24, will play in his first

Super Bowl.

He said: "It's a historic moment. To be on this platform and to give so many others so much inspiration moving forward, telling them that they can do it, too... it's a proud moment."

Peru, the world's second-largest copper producer, has been hit by social unrest since the Dec. 7 ouster of leftist President Pedro Castillo.

Dozens of protesters have been killed in clashes with security forces, mostly in the nation's rural south, a poor region despite the mineral wealth.

"We want to denounce that so many of our brothers have been killed," said Leonardo Zamata, a protester blocking the entrance to Humachiri, a town near the southern city of Juliaca. "How could this not hurt us, the most humble people?"

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Zamata added that his town wouldn't lift the blockade until there were new elections. Zamata, Quispe and others say they have collected money to send people to protest in Lima, but are dedicated to maintaining blockades in their towns.

Throughout the region, protesters said they can survive on local crops and livestock, and outlast the capital until their demands are met.

"(Boluarte) has to resign. Until then, we'll keep fighting," Quispe said. "The Peruvian people will never get tired."

Doug Williams was the first black quarterback to play in, and win, the Super Bowl back in 1988 with Washington. Since then, just six more black QBs have made the big game, with only Mahomes and Russell Wilson lifting the Lombardi Trophy.

Hurts will be the eighth, but it is the fact he will face Mahomes in the Super Bowl that gives hope of inspiring the next generation.

"I've learned more and more about the history of the black quarterback since I've been in this league and the guys that came before me and Jalen set the stage for this," added Mahomes. "I'm glad that we can set the stage for kids that are coming up now."

"If we can continue to show that we can consistently be great, I think it'll just continue to open doors for other kids growing up to



Doug Williams celebrates winning the Super Bowl - and being named the game's MVP

follow their dreams and to be a quarterback of an NFL team."

Progress should be a lot quicker than previously. Marlin Briscoe is considered the first black QB of the modern era, having suited up for the Denver Broncos in 1968, with a decade passing until Williams became the first to be selected in the first round of a full modern-day NFL Draft.

Eldridge Dickey was picked by the Oakland Raiders in the 1968 AFL/NFL Draft, but as happened on more than one occasion he was moved out to wide receiver and never actually played at quarterback in the league. Even when Williams won his Super Bowl, he only got his chance because of an injury to Washington's starter, and was benched the next season despite an MVP display in the big game.

Only 25 black quarterbacks have been first-round draft picks, but 13 of those have come since 2011 and

seven in the past six years. This season started with 11 black quarterbacks in the NFL, and ends with two MVP candidates in the Super Bowl.

Two leaders busting the biggest QB myth

As to the reasons why black quarterbacks struggled, a lack of diversity among NFL owners and head coaches could be put forward as a reason, with that leading to a lack of trust and the myth building that a black QB could struggle with the leadership role needed to play the position.

As history maker Williams noted himself in a National Public Radio interview: "You know, as a black quarterback, it was never about my ability to play the position. That wasn't the question. The question has always been leadership. Could you lead a team?"

That thought process seems to have finally been eradicated - with four of the five richest contracts in the

sport given to black QBs as teams hand the keys to their success over to their talented quarterbacks.

Mahomes and Hurts are two of the best examples, with the Chiefs QB a leader from the very start and guiding his side to victory after victory - including running with a badly sprained ankle to set up the field goal that brought them back to the Super Bowl for the third time in four years.

In Hurts' case, much focus was placed on his athletic ability, but doubts cast on his throwing accuracy and leadership skills. He has responded with 22 passing touchdowns this season, and the fourth-best quarterback rating in the league.

Nobody knows the quarterback position more than the recently retired Tom Brady, and he says leadership qualities even outweigh throwing ability for the modern-day triggerman to be successful.

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T. N. Kirnon among winners in schools' basketball mini primary division

T. N. Kirnon Primary School was among the winners in the Cool & Smooth Inter - Schools Basketball Competition at the JSC Sports Complex on Monday.

T. N. Kirnon Primary prevailed 8 - 1 over Pigotts Primary in the Mini Boys Primary School Division.

Ajay Powell scored 4 points for the winners while Dante Richards scored the only point for Pigotts.

There were wins as well for Cedar Grove, Sea View Farm and Golden Grove in the same division.

Jaylen Lewis scored 4 points to lead Cedar Grove Primary to a 7 - 4 victory against Villa Primary.

Deshawn Hoyte converted five points to help Sea View Farm Primary prevail 10 - 8 over Green Bay

Primary and Jahquan Henry sank 4 points as Golden Grove Primary pulled off a 6 - 0 victory against Parham Primary.

The Antigua Grammar School also surged to a 22 - 5 win against Combine in their encounter in the Mini Boys' Secondary School Division.

Joshua Joseph shot a game high 12 points, Najaryn Simons had 6 points and Derrick Perez scored 3 points for the Antigua Grammar School.

Combine and St. Anthony's Secondary claimed opening game wins in the senior division on 3rd February.

Combine prevailed 30 - 24 against Princess Margaret School in their Senior Girls' affair.



Jeniah Andrew scored 16 points and Jodaliah Constant converted 7 points for Combine, while Melissa Haywood shot a game high of 22 points for Princess Margaret School.

St. Anthony's Secondary defeated Princess Margaret School 52 - 48 in their Se-

nior Boys' encounter.

Devante Carter sank 14 points and Jabin Silston converted 8 points for St. Anthony's Secondary.

Craig Massiah shot a game high of 23 points and Jamal Barnes scored 8 points for Princess Margaret School.

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"A lot of people can throw the football, it's a little bit overrated in my view," Brady said recently on his Let's Go podcast. "What's more important is if the guys play with you and for you, and do they love you and respect you? And if they do that then I know you're going to be a great player."

"Because the players are watching you do everything, how you sit in the cafeteria, how you interact with anyone who walks in through the doorway, everything."

Mahomes & Hurts now the prototype for NFL QBs

Mahomes and Hurts are creating history, but they are also leading the charge of the modern quarterbacks in the NFL - who have to run, throw, and

think their way to success.

Robert Griffin III could also have been a trailblazer, with Williams' former team Washington, after a stellar debut campaign that brought records, awards and a Pro Bowl selection - only for a knee injury to curtail his career.

Now a TV analyst, he summed up the two Super Bowl QBs: "These guys are the new prototypical quarterback in the NFL - a triple threat, as they beat you with their arms, they beat you with their legs and they beat you with their minds."

"And the fact they're the first two black quarterbacks to be going up against each other in the Super Bowl makes this even more sweeter for all the generations that are coming up after them."

They have differing styles - Hurts is a superb runner who scores touchdowns for fun, coupled with a deadly deep throw, but his vast improvement over his first couple of seasons and his renowned work ethic really stand out.

Mahomes is a magician, perhaps the most entertaining QB in the league to watch with a plethora of unorthodox throws in his locker - side arms, under arms and no-look passes that we have not seen before but have become the norm.

He's also a prolific winner, getting to the AFC Championship game in every full season as a starter, and now his third Super Bowl at just 27 - he is the future of the NFL and it's a future that should look a lot brighter for black quarterbacks.

OCS and ASSS among latest winners in schools' netball league

Ottos Comprehensive School (OCS) and All Saints Secondary School (ASSS) recorded wins in the Cool & Smooth Inter-Schools Netball Competition on Monday.

Ottos Comprehensive School defeated Irene B. Williams Secondary 27 - 8 in the first game of a 16 and Under Division double-header at the YMCA Sports Complex.

Kiara Samuel scored 20 of her 27 shots and Jessica Massicott sank 7 of her 13 attempts for Ottos Comprehensive

Lovinna Matthew converted 6 of her 7 tries and Kadisha Henry scored two of her seven shots for Irene B. Williams.

All Saints Secondary prevailed 14 - 5 against Clare Hall Secondary School. Kinisha James scored 8 of her 15 tries



while Shakora Prince converted 6 of her 14 attempts for All Saints Secondary.

Delicia Graham sank 3 of her 7 attempts and Etanja Robertes scored 2 of her 5 tries for Clare Hall Secondary.

There were wins for Jennings and Sunnysdale in the 13 and Under Primary School Division on Friday, 4th February.

Jennings Primary beat Golden Grove Primary 9 - 0 with Anya Mullings scor-

ing nine of her 21 attempts.

Sunnysdale defeated Potters Primary 9 - 0 with Trinecia Greenaway scoring 6 of her 18 shots and Nyesha Chiddick converting three of her seven attempts.

Flyers2 blow out Ottos Clippers by 57 points in D2 basketball

Flyers2 trounced Daryll Matthew's Ottos Clippers by 57 points in the Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) Second Division league on Monday night.

Jaheem James shot a game of high 19 points to lead Flyers2 to their 97 - 40 victory over Ottos Clippers in the first game of a Zone 2 double header at the JSC Sports Complex.

Sadiq Phillip scored 17 points and snatched 14 rebounds, T - Shawn Lewis had 16 points and 6 assists,

Craig Massiah sank 14 points and Javonte Daley scored 10 points for Flyers2.

Jules Fredericks converted 11 points while Ricaldo Heywood grabbed 11 rebounds and scored 8 points for Ottos Clippers.

Galaxia Bar Spanish Heat cruised to an 86 - 69 victory against Gaston Browne's Pointville Ballers in the second game of the double header.

Steven Matthew shot a game high of 27 points with 6 rebounds, 6 as-

sists and 6 steals; Jesus Emmanuel had 20 points and 6 steals; Rohland Hamilton grabbed 23 rebounds and scored 14 points and Antonio Cruz-dehaa chipped in with 11 points and 8 rebounds for Spanish Heat.

Dyllan Joseph sank 18 points and claimed 7 rebounds; Tahj Kirby had 16 points with 12 rebounds and 8 assists; Khalid Shabazz scored 12 points and snatched 7 rebounds and Najee Simon converted 12 points for Pointville Ballers.

Rakeem Joseph's hattrick leads Empire past Tryum in ABFA Premier League

A second half hattrick by forward Rakeem Joseph propelled Empire to overcome a 2 - 0 deficit and snatch a 3 - 2 victory against Tryum in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Premier League on Monday.

Joseph scored the winner, which completed his hattrick, one minute before the end of regulation in the Premier League encounter at the ABFA Technical Center.

Goals by Romario Denie in the 18th minute and Chevel Cunningham in the 41st minute gave Tryum a 2 - 0 halftime lead, but Joseph led the charge as Empire came storming back in the second half to snatch their third win of the competition.

Just three minutes into the second half, Empire reduced the deficit when Joseph scored his first goal with a 48th minute conversion.

Joseph scored again for Empire via a penalty which he converted in the 59th minute. He then completed Empire's comeback victory

by slotting home the winner in the 89th minute.

The result lifted Empire to 10 points from nine outings, and into 11th place on goal difference, ahead of Pigotts Bullets who have the same number of points from the same number of matches.

A fifth loss in 10 encounters left Tryum in ninth place on 13 points.

Garden Stars strengthened their position at the top of the First Division by pulling off a 2 - 1 win over Bendals at the Technical Center on Monday.

Striker Allan Martin scored both goals for Garden Stars on either side of halftime.

Martin netted his first in the 5th minute to put his team ahead, but Okeski Ledatte scored an equaliser for Bendals by converting a penalty in the 10th minute.

Martin then got his second goal when he struck Garden Stars' winner in the 58th minute.

The ninth win in 10 matches ensured that Garden Stars extended their un-



Rakeem Joseph

beaten run and retained their position at the top of the First Division by advancing to 28 points.

Bendals remain in fourth place with 16 points despite suffering their fifth loss in 11 matches.