

SIR GERALD: MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

Commentary on Page 7



Representatives from Antigua and Barbuda were among participants taking part in a Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) training for senior staff, organized by regional and international relief agencies. From the left: GIS Specialist within NODS- Alvah Guishard, Liaison Officer within the Ministry of Agriculture- Marcelle Freeland, Chartered Surveyor within the Survey and Mapping Division- Andrew Nurse, Sustainable Tourism Officer within the Ministry of Tourism- Dr. Adelle Blair, Senior Budget Analyst within the Ministry of Finance- Jannelle Wehner-Watts. *Story on page 5*

Pandemonium in Booby Alley, man refuses to give up house

Heavy-duty machine operators ran for cover yesterday afternoon, as a group of angry Point residents threw stones and other missiles at them and their equipment.

Scores of residents were outraged over the manner in which a Booby Alley resident was extracted from his home by police, who allegedly showed up with a warrant for the occupants to vacate the premises, in order for the house to be demolished as part of government's urban renewal plan for the area.

As the female occupants of the home removed their furniture and other posses-



sions from the wooden house after 3pm on Tuesday, the male resident declared his unwillingness to move and

barricaded himself inside, even though he was being cajoled by some residents and the police to leave. He

instead demanded that Prime Minister Gaston Browne, parliamentary representative for St. John's City West Constituency, Attorney General Steadroy Benjamin and Commissioner of Police Atlee Rodney be summoned to the area to have discussions with him.

Police spent most of their time trying to convince the man to leave the house that is situated in Booby Alley on the side of Lower St. John's Street. However, his refusal to acknowledge their request resulted in armed officers storming the house.

cont'd on pg 3

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Protesting family agreed to move in prior arrangement

Every effort was made to have the remaining residents of Booby Alley removed peacefully, including having them sign an agreement upon advisement from their lawyers.

That is the word from Mobilisation Manager for the Booby Alley Project, Kem Hodge. He also revealed that an alternative accommodation – a five-bedroom concrete house - has been secured to serve as a temporary home for the family of nine.

“We also had an agreement through advice given from their lawyers Leon Chaku Symister and Sheffield Bowen. We sought and received a court order for their removal. Even after all this, one member of the family – Joel O’Marde



– refused to abide by the court order and was fined \$1,000.00 by a High Court Judge for contempt of court,” Hodge explained.

Additionally, he disclosed that the government needs to have the area cleared by the end of the month and have it turned over to the Chinese contractors, who are to construct condominium-style

homes for over 150 families.

According to Hodge, the majority of the residents of Booby Alley have been peacefully relocated to a number of areas, free of charge. “More than two hundred and forty persons have been relocated, representing the vast majority of residents in Booby Alley. It is critical that the area be

turned over to the Chinese contractors because further delay may place the project in jeopardy,” Hodge noted.

The Mobilisation Office explained that the lands have been acquired by the government, for the sole purpose of constructing the new houses there, as part of the government’s urban renewal plans, and for improving the country’s housing stock.

The project, a key campaign promise from the sitting representative, Prime Minister Gaston Browne, has had pockets of resistance from a small, but very vocal minority of residents of the area.

This is the latest in a series of attempts by this group to further delay the start of the project.

cont’d from pg 2

What is believed to be a gunshot was heard, and within seconds, the man was lifted out of the house, placed in a police pickup, and was driven away to St. John’s Police Station. Many onlookers believed the man was shot, but unconfirmed reports are a firearm was indeed discharged by the police, but it caused no injury to him. Latest reports indicate that rubber bullets were used by the police in a bid to subdue, rather than to cause serious injury.

As the police convoy was leaving the area, some residents began throwing bottles and stones at the vehicles, while hurling insults and indecent language at law enforcement officers. Shortly after, they turned their attention

to the heavy-duty equipment parked in the open space in Booby Alley, close to Lower North Street.

Many began stoning the excavator and the backhoe that were dispatched by the Ministry of Works to demolish the house, causing the operators to flee the area to avoid injuries. For more than an hour the equipment was left unattended with the engines running.

A Housing Units agreement was signed in August 2021, between the Governments of Antigua and Barbuda and the People’s Republic of China, that will result in the construction of 150 two-bedroom units, in a turn-key arrangement at Booby Alley.

Clearing of the proposed construction site was carried out on a large part



of the area. However, to date, the government continues to experience resistance from some residents of Booby Alley, who are not yet convinced that they should relocate. This has caused a delay in the start of the project.

Opening of Alfa Nero bids set for Saturday

The selection process by which the government will select the highest bidder to move on to purchase the super yacht, *Alfa Nero*, will start on Saturday.

That is when the legal requirements provided by the amendment to the Antigua Port Authority Act prior to the sale of the vessel, would have been met.

This is the explanation coming from the Attorney General, Steadroy Benjamin. “The Port Manager who is responsible for the process, will begin opening the bids on Saturday, following the expiration of the ten day-notice for anyone who has an interest in the vessel to come forward and claim it; as well as the notice of the proposed sale being advertised in the international media.

“We want to ensure that all the legal hurdles are crossed, before we proceed with the eventual sale of the vessel,” he stated.

The amendments passed



by parliament in March, authorize the Port Manager (Darwin Telemaque) to determine that the vessel has been abandoned, allowing the government to take control and to proceed with the sale to satisfy outstanding creditors and the crew members, as well as the local ma-

rina for mooring charges.

Point Express newspaper has been reliably informed that the outstanding amounts that are owed, total approximately \$12 million.

Telemaque will conduct the process and make a determination based on who presents the highest bid. He

has indicated that there has been strong interest by several individuals to purchase the *Alfa Nero*.

After the vessel is sold, it will have its name changed and will be presented with a ‘flag’ or registry allowing it to be able to traverse international waters.

Hotels continue to regain pandemic-related losses

The hotel sector of the tourism industry continues to perform well as it seeks to regain ground from the losses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020-21.

Latest figures from the Antigua and Barbuda Hotels and Tourist Association, show that hotel occupancy for February continues to improve, although they are still shy of February 2019, the year being used as the baseline for comparisons.

The figures show that for February

2023, occupancy was 86.4 percent, for 2022, 70.5 percent, 2021, 20.0 percent, 2020 it was 77.6 percent and in 2019 it was 86.5 percent.

The ABHTA explained that the destination currently has over thirteen thousand room nights closed in 2023, compared with 2019.

If the room nights were equal to what was available in 2019, the occupancy this February would have been 78.4 percent.

The association’s reports also

showed that airlift has also dropped slightly compared to 2019.

This year, just over thirty thousand stay-over visitors traveled to the island.

This represents a nine percent decrease from the 33-thousand visitors who came to the country in 2019.

The United States held on to its position of being the most important source market for visitors to the country. The United Kingdom and Canada are second and third respectively.



Senior officials attend post-disaster needs assessment workshop

Representatives from Antigua and Barbuda were among participants taking part in a Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) training for senior staff, organized by regional and international relief agencies.

The workshop was organized by the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency’s (CDEMA’s) Co-ordinating Unit in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and other international partners. This event took place in Barbados from Monday 27th March to

Friday 31st March and it was aimed at select sectors targeting seven (7) participating states as well as Disaster Managers.

Forty (40) participants were selected from the CDEMA participating states under the Enabling Gender-Responsive Disaster Recovery, Climate, and Environmental Resilience in the Caribbean (EnGenDER) project and attended the workshop.

The participants were drawn from Antigua & Barbuda, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, St Lucia, and St Vincent & The Gren-

adines along with the staff of CDEMA, UNDP, and the EU. The group comprised of senior staff from their respective countries’ Housing, Agriculture, Economic Planning, Finance, Infrastructure, and Tourism ministries.

The main objectives of the workshop were to:

- Provide participants with the knowledge of The Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA), the methodology which collects information on the physical impacts of a disaster.
- Provide training to sectoral actors, to ensure a prac-

tical understanding of the methodology.

- Develop a cadre of professionals with the capacity to support its application for the assessment of damage, loss, and sectoral recovery needs, in the wake of a disaster.

- Provide in-depth training that will enable participants to become sector focal points in their country.

Antigua and Barbuda was represented by Dr. Adelle Blair – Sustainable Tourism Officer - Ministry of Tourism, Mrs. Janelle Wehner-Watts – Senior Budget Analyst – Ministry of Finance, Mr. Alvah Guishard – GIS Specialist - NODS, Mr. Andrew Nurse – Chartered Surveyor – Survey and Mapping Division and Ms. Marcelle Freeland – Liaison Officer - Ministry of Agriculture, who all returned over the weekend.

<p>Wed 05 Day</p> <p>82° </p> <p>Partly cloudy skies. High 82F. Winds E at 10 to 20 mph.</p>		<p>Wed 05 Night</p> <p>74° </p> <p>A few clouds from time to time. Low 74F. Winds E at 10 to 15 mph.</p>	
<p>Humidity 70%</p>	<p>UV Index Extreme</p>	<p>Humidity 78%</p>	<p>UV Index 0 of 10</p>
<p>Sunrise 5:59 am</p>	<p>Sunset 6:21 pm</p>	<p>Moonrise 6:05 pm</p>	<p>Moonsset 5:39 am</p> <p> Full Moon</p>

Local News



International Carrot Day observed locally

Tuesday April 4, 2023, was observed as International Carrot Day as Antigua and Barbuda joined the international community in focusing attention on this multi-use vegetable.

April 4th 2023 marked the twentieth anniversary that carrot lovers worldwide observed this celebration. Since then, this observance is now a widespread celebration and is not only recognized in most European countries such as the United Kingdom, France, Italy and Sweden, but also in places like Australia and Japan.

“Carrot, a root vegetable, is very nutritious and is believed to have been discovered in Central Asia. This vegetable as we know,



is the most favourite of rabbits and probably most persons.

“The most famous variety is the orange slightly sweet, but there are others such as the Purple Dragon, Chantenay, Danvers, Nantes, Yellow and White to name a few,” a release from the Ministry of Agriculture said.

However, it was noted



that no matter what the variations are, whether it is the colour or size, carrots are normally conical in shape, and they all are known as “Cultivars”. Additionally, carrots can be prepared and consumed in so many ways ranging from soups, cakes, drinks, salads, and stews.

Carrots are famously known for their high vitamin content of beta-carotene and are great for our eyesight.

The ministry said it will combine activities of International Carrot Day with those marking International Plant Appreciation Day next week Thursday, April 13.

WRIT OF POSSESSION

To: The Bailiff

You are required to take possession of the land situated at Booby Alley, Pointe, St. John's, Antigua and registered and recorded in the and Registry as Registration Section: St. John's North; Block: 63-1693F; Parcels: 89 and 92 AND deliver the same to the Claimant or the Claimant's representative.

You are also required to indorse on this Writ immediately after execution a statement of the manner in which you have executed it and send a copy to the Claimant.

Dated: 4th April 2023

Notice to Defendants



Notice of taking possession

You have failed to give up possession of the property described overleaf and the Marshal is authorized to enter the land to take possession of the property and deliver possession to the Claimant.

The Court Office is at Parliament Drive, St. John's, Antigua, telephone number 268-462-0609, Fax number 268-462-3929. The office is open between 8:00am through 2:00pm, Monday to Friday except on public holidays.

IN THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

Antigua and Barbuda

Claim No: ANUHCV 2023/0059

BETWEEN:

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

Applicant

and

DENIECE O'MARDE

JOEL O'MARDE also known as JOEL of the O'MARDE FAMILY

JOLENE O'MARDE

OTIS FRANCIS

JERMAIN JOSEPH

ALEC JOSEPH

Respondents

Request for Issue of Writ of Possession

Attorney General's Chambers

Much ado about nothing

By Hon. Sir Gerald A. Watt, KCN, KC; Speaker of the House of Representatives

I feel the need to write this article in order to address and dispel the heretical, and nonsensical, propositions espoused by the Leader of the Opposition (LO), the Members of the Opposition Branch, UPP, BPM and independent alike, and fulsomely supported by the self-praising former Speaker, in a guest opinion published in the Daily Observer, on Saturday 18th March, 2023, entitled “**Where absolute Power, Corrupts Absolutely**”.

The issues to which I refer are:

The assertion that the Honourable Member of St. Phillips North and Deputy Speaker was not properly seated as a Member of the House in that “He had not subscribed to the Oath of Allegiance as required by Standing Order 6(1) and Section 48(1) of the Constitution of Antigua and Barbuda” and;

The correct interpretation of the applicability of Standing Order 96 (1) which deals with “**Suspension of Standing Orders**”.

I have particularly taken note of the aforesaid “**Guest Opinion**” which is dishonest, misleading, and a ploy calculated to nullify the entire Budget Debate on the farcical proposition that the said Member, had sub-

scribed not to the Oath of a Member but to that of Deputy Speaker. The balance of the guest opinion was devoted to the usual accusations of bias and unfairness by the present Speaker, which coming from the writer is hilarious, who when accused of persistent bias during her term, flippantly and unabashedly declared that “she danced with who brought her to the dance”. I also found her defence of the MP for St. Peter most interesting, a person whom she and her party had previously despised, but who is now being politically embraced to the point where she criticizes the Speaker for not allowing that Member to read his speech, in direct contravention of Standing Order 39(10). “**Politics really makes for strange bedfellows**”.

DID THE MEMBER FOR ST. PHILLIPS NORTH MAKE AND SUBSCRIBE TO THE OATH OF ALLEGIANCE?

1) Section 48 (1) of the Constitution reads as follows:

“No Member of either House of Parliament shall take part in the proceedings of that House (other than proceedings necessary for the purpose of this section) until he has made and subscribed before that House **the Oath of Allegiance**.”

2) Standing Order 6(1) states:

“Except for the purpose



Speaker of the House Sir Gerald A. Watt

of electing a Speaker and Deputy Speaker after a general election, no Member of the House shall take part in proceedings thereof until he has made and subscribed **the Oath of Allegiance in the form set out in Appendix IV to these Standing Orders**”.

At the Swearing in Sitting, having been elected as Speaker by ballot, I swore **the Oath of Allegiance as set out in Appendix IV**, following which I signed the register and took the chair as Speaker. The Member for St. Phillips North having been duly elected **swore to the Oath of Allegiance as set out in Appendix IV**, following which he signed the register in the very same manner as the Speaker did, yet remarkably no one has suggested that the Speaker has not subscribed to the Oath and therefore could not have presided over the

House during the Budget Speech and Budget Debate.

Further and in addition. It must be noted that neither Section 48(1) of the Constitution or Standing Order 6(1) refers to the “**swearing and subscribing to an Oath of Allegiance of a Speaker or Deputy Speaker moreover there is no form provided by the Standing Orders by which such an Oath can be taken, let alone subscribed**”. My notation in the register as Speaker is merely descriptive, what is substantive is that the Oath of Allegiance taken, and subscribed, by both Speaker, and Deputy Speaker. The public may well ask who has advised the (LO) with regard to this matter. Is it his adviser, the former Speaker who one would have thought would know better, is it one or both of the frontline at-

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Commentary



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torneys known to advise the UPP, the one frequently appearing on the 'Dave Lester Payne Show' and the other, the UPP's defender on Facebook, or is it the freshly minted Parliamentary Advisor to the UPP, MP Asot Michael.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER 96

Standing Order 96 (1) reads as follows:

"Any one or more of these Standing Orders may be suspended on a motion made by a Member at any Sitting after notice or **with the leave of the Speaker**".

Standing Order 96 (2) :
"A motion under this Standing Order shall be decided without amend-

ment or debate."

This Standing Order clearly indicates that a Member of the House may move a Motion for the suspension of **ANY** Standing Order, either by notice or with leave of the Speaker. On this occasion, the Attorney General rose to move the Motion as he was entitled to do and would have been expected to give the reasons for the Motion for suspension of Standing Order 96(1), which would have been to enable the House to debate an Amendment to the Port Authority Act, 2023, as a matter of Urgent Public Importance. Addressing the Speaker, the (LO) interrupted supposedly on a point of order, which he supported by cit-

ing Standing Order 60(3) which states:

"As soon as possible after the final draft of a Bill has been approved by the instructing Ministry/Cabinet, the Clerk shall cause the publication of the Bill in the Gazette and an electronic copy of the Bill shall be sent to the Members of the House with a physical copy being circulated to every Member of the House not less than 5 days before the Sitting."

The Leader of the Opposition's point of order as has been stated before was to be made **"without amendment or Debate" and pursuant to Standing Order 42(3) "must put the point succinctly"**.

It can hardly be said that MP Pringle put the point of order succinctly (the Dictionary meaning being concise, expressed briefly and clearly), in fact, the Leader of the Opposition embarked on a 5 minute rant in which he debated the point of order, contrary to the expressed provision of Standing Order 42 (3). This debate consisted mainly of complaints of short service, unfairness, inability to properly debate, and a raft of other complaints which were all repeated several times. The Leader of the Opposition was clearly out of order and I could have immediately ruled against his point of order, which was obviously without merit, however I did not, as the issue was one of Public importance and contrary to the

Standing Orders, I therefore allowed the Member to voice his complaints. In any event had I applied the rules, he, his Members, and his Political Advisor would have accused me of bias. In the circumstances, I correctly ruled against the point of order, on the ground that the Motion was properly moved and seconded and Standing Order 96 (1) was clearly applicable.

During his emotional objection, the Leader of the Opposition bemoaned the fact that the mover and/or Government Leader **"had not given the Opposition /members time to study the Bill and to consult with constituents"**, much has been made of this by the Opposition and in her intellectually dishonest article, the former Speaker indicated that the Leader of Opposition appealed for time to caucus and consult. My question is appealed to whom? The appeal could not be directed to the Speaker who has no authority to entertain and/or rule on any such appeal or request. The way in which that can be done and has been done on a number of occasions during my tenure is to request the mover of the Motion or the Leader of Government's Business to, through the Speaker, allow to a reasonable period of time to discuss a Motion or matter, following which by agreement, a Motion is put to the Speaker to suspend the Sitting for the pe-
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Case Number : ANUHCV2023/0059

FILED
 HIGH COURT
 ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

IN THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
 IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

Antigua and Barbuda Submitted Date: 04/04/2023 09:28
 Claim No: ANUHCV 2023/0059 Filed Date: 04/04/2023 09:28
 BETWEEN: Fees Paid: 0.00

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
 Applicant

and

DENIECE O'MARDE
 JOEL O'MARDE also known as JOEL of the O'MARDE FAMILY
 Respondents

JOLENE O'MARDE
 OTIS FRANCIS
 JERMAIN JOSEPH
 ALEC JOSEPH
 Respondents

Request for Issue of Writ of Possession

To: The Court

I, Joy Dublin, of the Attorney General's Chambers, Ministry of Legal Affairs, Parliament Drive, St John's in Antigua, telephone No. Tel.: 462-0017/462-0019, Legal Practitioner for the Claimant **HEREBY APPLY** for the issue of a Writ of Possession against the Defendants to recover possession of the land situated at Booby Alley, Pointe, St John's, Antigua and registered and recorded in the and Registry as Registration Section: St. John's North; Block: 63-1693F; Parcels: 89 and 92.

I certify that:-
 (a) the Claimant is entitled to possession and that the Defendants have not complied with any condition upon which the order for possession was suspended;

Dated 3rd day of April, 2023

Signed Joy Dublin
 Crown Counsel

Commentary

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riod agreed by both benches. One would think that the same Speaker with her superior knowledge, “ten years’ experience in the Chair, regional workshops, and international meetings” would know this and would have advised the Leader of the Opposition either through his device of his ear piece.

And, so in a surprising turn of events, the Leader of the Opposition, in a senseless fit of pique, and seemingly without a plan or constitution with the other Opposition Members snatched up his papers and belongings and stomped out of the House, shouting as he exited “I am not supporting that”. I have had the opportunity to observe clips of the LO’s abrupt exit, and what is noticed is the confused look on the faces of the Members. Most noticeable, was the bewildered expressions on the faces of the Members for St. John’s Rural West and All Saints West and St. Phillip’s South, and to a lesser extent the Members for St. George’s and St. Mary’s South, as they belatedly left the Chamber. The amendment to the Bill was debated and passed.

Within the hour of the walkout to the bemusement of some and the amusement of others, the exiting Members, retired to what was described as “an undisclosed location”, but which was in point of fact a coffee shop, directly opposite the Cas-sada Gardens Race Track.

There, Her Majesty’s Loyal Opposition proceeded to debate the Bill while being videoed by the ubiquitous George Whenner. A number of persons of various political persuasions have discussed the walkout with me and have made the following observations:

In what way did the walkout contribute to a de-

bate on a Bill which was urgent public importance?

If within a very short time, each Opposition Member could speak on the issue and make a number of arguments as to the demerits of the Bill, could not these arguments have been made at the Parliamentary Sitting rather than at the coffee shop and Facebook?

Does the Leader of the Opposition and Opposition Members intend to walk out of the Parliamentary Sitting each time they are short served, or feel disrespected?

In expressing my view on this entire incident, I borrow from the late William Shakespeare, It was “**much ado about nothing**”.

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One in six people affected by infertility globally, says WHO

BBC - A report from the World Health Organisation (WHO) has found one in six people around the world experience infertility.

There also appears to be little difference in rates across high, middle and low-income countries.

The proportion of adults affected by infertility during their lives is 17.8% in high-income countries and 16.5% in low and middle-income ones.

WHO is calling for better access to fertility care across all nations.

Infertility, according to the NHS, is when a couple cannot conceive despite having unprotected sex regularly.

WHO defines infertility as a failure to achieve a pregnancy after 12 months or more of regular unprotected



The World Health Organisation is calling for better access to fertility care around the globe.

sex. Medical treatment for lack of ovulation or surgical procedures can be used to help women specifically, while intrauterine insemination (IUI) or in vitro fertilisation (IVF) are also available to assist couples with conception.

These treatments are available on the NHS, but

IUI and IVF are often limited or require a strict set of requirements to qualify for access.

WHO says in most countries, fertility treatment is funded by individuals rather than national health services, which can result in financial hardship for many.

People in poorer countries spend a greater propor-

tion of their income on fertility care compared to richer people, according to the report.

High costs are seen as a factor preventing people from accessing treatment and ultimately being unable to conceive when natural methods fail.

“The report reveals an important truth - infertility does not discriminate,” said the Director-General of WHO, Dr Tedros Adhanom.

He added: “The sheer proportion of people affected shows the need to widen access to fertility care and ensure this issue is no longer sidelined in health research and policy, so that safe, effective and affordable ways to attain parenthood are available for those who seek it.”

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CARPHA launches online course on regional food security and nutrition surveillance

Food security and nutrition surveillance systems (FNSS) are critical to public health as they provide information for immediate and medium to long-term decision-making relating to the nutritional risk factors, nutritional status and nutrition-related diseases and disorders in a country's population.

The Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) has reaffirmed its commitment to support its Member States in developing and strengthening existing food security and nutrition surveillance systems, by launching a self-paced, asynchronous online Regional Food Security and Nutrition Surveillance Course.

"The course can help develop and strengthen FNSS. We want our Member States to have a strong evidence base and capacity for the measurement of outcomes of national programs towards the achievement of regional and global targets," stated Dr Joy St. John, Executive Director of CARPHA.

Some of the targets include the 2007 Declaration of Port of Spain; the 2007 Declaration of St. Ann; Sustainable Development Goals #2.2 and #3.4. World Health Assembly Targets



for Improving Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition by 2025; and Global Diet-Related Non-Communicable Diseases Targets 2025-2030.

The course is expected to equip participants with appropriate skills to address food and nutrition-related challenges and provide guidelines for embarking on developing and/or strengthening food security and nutrition surveillance systems in CARPHA Member States. Four modules to be completed in the course are:

- Understanding surveillance systems;
- Developing the food

and nutrition surveillance system;

Surveillance information for public policy; and Sustainability of surveillance systems.

The launch of the Regional Food Security and Nutrition Surveillance Course took place on February 6, 2023, and was attended by 25 CARPHA staff, and representatives of 15 CARPHA Member States.

The course is currently being piloted on the CARPHA Moodle platform from February 6, 2023, to May 31, 2023, with 37 Technical Officers from Ministries of Health in 20 CARPHA

Member States namely: Anguilla; Antigua and Barbuda; Aruba; Bahamas; Barbados; Cayman Islands; Curacao; Belize; British Virgin Islands; Dominica; Grenada; Guyana; Jamaica; Sint Maarten; St. Kitts and Nevis; St. Lucia; St. Vincent and the Grenadines; Suriname; Turks and Caicos; and Trinidad and Tobago.

The development of the course was funded under a Subsidiary Agreement between CARPHA and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) for Strengthening Public Health Capacities in the Caribbean Subregion.



Johnson & Johnson offers \$9bn to settle talc claims

BBC - Johnson & Johnson has proposed to pay almost \$9bn to resolve tens of thousands of lawsuits it faces in North America that claim its baby powder and other talc-based products cause cancer.

The healthcare giant said it still believed the claims were “specious” but was hoping the new settlement offer would help conclude its legal battle.

The figure marks a big boost over the \$2bn it had proposed previously.

The new offer has significant support from people tied to the case, it said.

The company is facing more than 40,000 lawsuits from former customers who say using its talc-based baby powder caused cancer, including some who allege the product contained cancer-causing asbestos.

It stopped US sales of its talc-based baby powder in 2020, citing “misinformation” that had sapped de-

mand for the product, applied to prevent nappy rash and for other cosmetic uses, including dry shampoo. Last year, it announced plans to end sales globally.

Before that decision, the company had sold the baby powder for almost 130 years. It continues to sell a version of the product that contains cornstarch.

The company has been trying to resolve the lawsuits in bankruptcy court since 2021, after creating a subsidiary responsible for the claims.

But its efforts ran into trouble after an earlier bankruptcy court ruling found the subsidiary was not in financial distress and could not use the bankruptcy system to resolve the lawsuits.

“The company continues to believe that these claims are specious and lack scientific merit,” said Erik Haas, worldwide vice president of lit-

igation for Johnson & Johnson.

But he said “resolving these cases in the tort system would take decades and impose significant costs on LTL and the system, with most claimants never receiving any compensation.”

“Resolving this matter through the proposed reorganisation plan is both more equitable and more efficient, allows claimants to be compensated in a timely manner, and enables the company to remain focused on our commitment to profoundly and positively impact health for humanity.”

Johnson & Johnson said it had won a majority of the talc lawsuits against it. But it has been stuck with some significant losses, including one decision in which 22 women were awarded a judgement of more than \$2bn.

Johnson & Johnson said it had commitments from about 60,000 current claimants to support the new settlement terms.

US Coast Guard repatriates migrants to Dominican Republic

Loop - The US Coast Guard repatriated 39 migrants to the Dominican Republic on Saturday, following the interdiction of an illegal voyage vessel in Mona Passage waters near Puerto Rico Friday morning.

One other man from this case, also a Dominican Republic national, is facing federal prosecution at the US District Court in Puerto Rico on charges of attempted illegal re-entry into the United States. The man also has an outstanding federal warrant from Boston, for identify theft.

According to reports, during a rou-
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Grenada experiencing acute gastroenteritis outbreak

By Melissa Wong

An outbreak of acute gastroenteritis is occurring in Grenada with over 300 cases reported in the last three weeks.

Chief Medical Officer Dr Shawn Charles brought the update to the public at Tuesday's Post Cabinet briefing.

He says the Ministry of Health confirms Grenada is experiencing an outbreak of acute gastroenteritis characterised by the following symptoms- nausea, vomiting, abdominal cramps and watery diarrhoea. Some individuals may have a fever and muscle pain.

Dr Charles says this increase in cases was noticed about three weeks ago, and in the last three weeks, a to-



tal of 345 cases were reported. This is compared to 70 cases that occurred during the same time in 2022.

The CMO says all age groups are affected but most cases are being seen in the 1 to 4 years age group and 25 to 44 years age group. There is no significant difference in cases between males and

females.

Most reports have emerged from the districts of St George, St Andrew, Carriacou and Petite Martinique, with the majority of cases being reported from St George.

The CMO says testing of samples has revealed the cause of the outbreak to be

norovirus, however, rotavirus and E.coli, two organisms that also cause acute gastroenteritis, were also identified.

The disease is transmitted through the faecal-oral route through the consumption of food and water that is contaminated with viruses and bacteria. It is also transmitted when unclean or contaminated hands or objects touch the mouth.

Dr Charles in explaining the symptoms says while most cases are mild, gastroenteritis can cause severe dehydration and death in persons who are susceptible such as the very young, the elderly and persons with underlying conditions that weaken their immune systems.

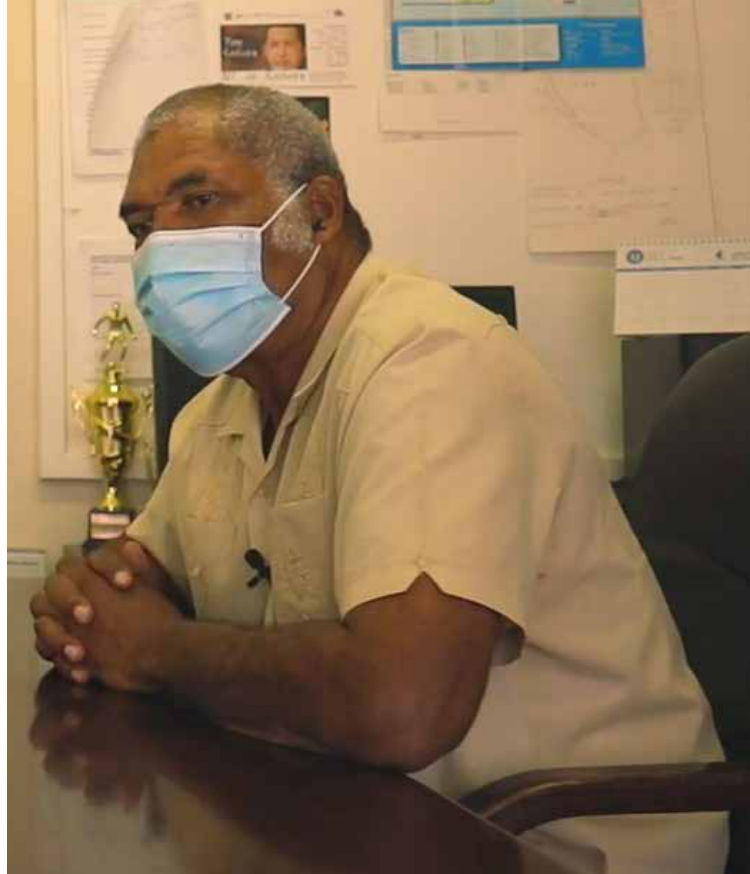
St Vincent's Deputy Prime Minister in Cuba for medical treatment

CMC - Prime Minister Dr Ralph Gonsalves has postponed an official visit to Morocco this week as he confirmed that his deputy, Montgomery Daniel, 69, is in Cuba for medical attention related to an issue with one of his legs that had him hospitalised here in February.

Gonsalves was scheduled to travel to London then Morocco on Wednesday, adding that the issue with Daniel may be the result of a sciatic nerve problem.

"If he stands too much on his feet, it affects one of his legs," Gonsalves said his Minister of Transport, Works, Land and Surveys and Physical Planning.

"So, he has gone for a second opinion or any possible treatment in Cuba. The doctors were doing quite well but they themselves thought that a second opinion would be a



Deputy Prime Minister of St Vincent and the Grenadines, Montgomery Daniel (File photo).

good thing," Gonsalves said, adding that Daniel is being accompanied by his son to Havana.

Gonsalves also indicated that he did not want to

travel for a prolonged time with two of his ministers not at work.

Urban Development, Energy, Airports, Seaports, Grenadines Affairs and

Local Government Minister, Julian Francis, who suffered a stroke last July, is yet to return to work and Gonsalves said his son, Camillo, who is also the Minister of Finance is also scheduled to travel to Washington, DC on official business later this week.

"You have to make assessments as to where you should be. And I spoke to the Moroccans. They understood with the deputy prime minister being out and with the circumstances I just outlined ... I thought that I should postpone that visit," Gonsalves said.

He said that in the interim, Kingstown and Rabat will pursue arrangements made during a recent visit by a Moroccan delegation to St Vincent and the Grenadines.

Gonsalves said he was scheduled to sign some agreements during his visit to Morocco.

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tine patrol last Thursday night, the aircrew of a Coast Guard Ocean Sentry aircraft detected a 40-foot makeshift boat, approximately 38 nautical miles northwest of Aguadilla, Puerto Rico.

A Coast Guard helicopter aircrew and vessel completed the interdiction. Afterwards, the crew safely embarked 39 adults, eight women and 31 men, and a 17-year-old unaccompanied male minor.

The adult migrants were repatriated to the Armada Repdom just off Punta Cana, Dominican Republic,

while the unaccompanied minor was transferred to the Children and Adolescents National Council (Conani) in the Dominican Republic.

US Ramey Sector Border Patrol agents received custody of the man facing prosecution in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico Saturday.

"The successful outcome of this case is due to the outstanding collaboration between responding units and our partner agencies in Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic," Lt. Cmdr. Edward Kunigonis, Sector San Juan chief of enforcement. "Irregular

maritime migration is highly dangerous, most often takes place aboard grossly overloaded unseaworthy vessels. If you are thinking of taking part in an illegal voyage, do not take to the sea! You could lose your life."

Since October 1, 2022, through March 31, 2023, the Coast Guard has carried out 25 illegal voyage interdictions in the Mona Passage and waters near Puerto Rico.

Interdicted during this period, are 777 non-US citizens including 568 Dominicans, 195 Haitians, 13 Venezuelans and one unknown nationality.

Trump charged with 34 felony counts in hush money scheme

NEW YORK (AP) — A stone-faced Donald Trump, making a historically momentous court appearance as the only ex-president to be charged with a crime, was confronted with a 34-count felony indictment Tuesday accusing him in a scheme to bury negative information during his first campaign.

The arraignment in a Manhattan courtroom, though largely procedural in nature, was nonetheless a stunning — and humbling — spectacle for the former president, putting him face-to-face with prosecutors who bluntly accused him of criminal conduct and setting the stage for a possible criminal trial in the city where he decades ago became a celebrity.

The indictment centers on allegations that Trump sought to illegally influence the 2016 election by arranging payments designed to silence claims that he feared would be harmful to his candidacy. It includes 34 counts of falsified business documents for checks that Trump sent to his personal lawyer and problem-solver to reimburse him for his role in paying off a porn actor who said she had an extramarital sexual encounter with Trump years earlier.

“The defendant, Donald J. Trump, falsified New York business records in order to conceal an illegal conspiracy to undermine the integrity of

the 2016 presidential election and other violations of election laws,” said Assistant District Attorney Christopher Conroy.

Trump, somber and silent as he entered and exited the Manhattan courtroom, said “not guilty” in a firm voice while facing a judge who warned him to refrain from rhetoric that could inflame or cause civil unrest. All told, the ever-verbose Trump, who for weeks before Tuesday’s arraignment had assailed the case against him as political persecution, uttered only 10 words — though he did appear to glare for a period at Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg, the prosecutor who brought the case.

As he returned to his Florida estate, Mar-a-Lago, where he planned to deliver a primetime address to supporters, Trump again protested his innocence and asserted on his Truth Social platform that the “hearing was shocking to many in that they had no ‘surprises,’ and therefore, no case.”

Even so, the indictment amounts to a remarkable reckoning for Trump after years of investigations into his personal, business and political dealings. It shows how even as Trump is looking to reclaim the White House in 2024, he is shadowed by investigations related to his behavior in the two prior elections, with prosecutors in



Former US President Donald Trump

Atlanta and Washington scrutinizing efforts by Trump and his allies to undo the 2020 presidential election. Those probes, as well as a separate Justice Department inquiry into the mishandling of classified documents, could produce even more charges.

In the New York case, each count of falsifying business records, a felony, is punishable by up to four years in prison — though it’s not clear if a judge would impose any prison time if Trump is convicted. The next court date is December 4 — two months before Republicans begin their nominating process in earnest — and Trump will again be expected to appear.

A conviction would not prevent Trump from running for or winning the presidency in 2024.

The arraignment also delved into Trump’s rhetoric on the case, with prosecutors at one point handing printouts of his social media posts to the judge and defense

lawyers as Trump looked on. Supreme Court Judge Juan Merchan did not impose a gag order but told Trump’s lawyers to urge him to refrain from posts that could encourage unrest.

The broad contours of the case have long been known, but the indictment contains new details about a scheme that prosecutors say began months into his candidacy in 2015, as his celebrity past collided with his presidential ambitions. Though prosecutors expressed confidence in the case, a conviction is no sure thing given the legal complexities of the allegations, the application of state election laws to a federal election and prosecutors’ likely reliance on a key witness, Trump’s former lawyer and fixer Michael Cohen, who pleaded guilty in 2018 to false statements.

It centers on payoffs to two women, porn star Stormy Daniels and Playboy model

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International

AROUND THE WORLD



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Karen McDougal, who said they had extramarital sexual encounters with Trump years earlier, as well as to a Trump Tower doorman who claimed to have a story about a child he alleged the former president had out of wedlock.

“It’s not just about one payment. It is 34 false statements and business records that were concealing criminal conduct,” Bragg told reporters, when asked how the three separate cases were connected.

All 34 counts against Trump are linked to a series of checks that were written to Cohen to reimburse him for

his role in paying off Daniels. Those payments, made over 12 months, were recorded in various internal company documents as being for a legal retainer that prosecutors say didn’t exist. Cohen testified before the grand jury.

Nine of those monthly checks were paid out of Trump’s personal accounts, but records related to them were maintained in the Trump Organization’s data system.

Prosecutors allege that the first instance of Trump directing hush money payments came in the fall of 2015, when a former Trump Tower doorman was trying to sell information about an

alleged out-of-wedlock child fathered by Trump.

David Pecker, a Trump friend and the publisher of the National Enquirer, made a \$30,000 payment to the doorman to acquire the exclusive rights to the story, pursuant to an agreement to protect Trump during his presidential campaign, according to the indictment.

Pecker’s company later determined the doorman’s story was false, but is alleged to have enforced the doorman’s confidentiality at Cohen’s urging until after Election Day.

Trump denies having sexual liaisons with both

Daniels and McDougal and has denied any wrongdoing involving payments.

After his arraignment, Trump was returning to his Florida home, Mar-a-Lago, for a primetime address to campaign supporters. At least 500 prominent supporters have been invited, with some of the most pro-Trump congressional Republicans expected to attend.

The day’s schedule, with its striking blend of legal and political calendar items, represents the new split-screen reality for Trump as he submits to the dour demands of the American criminal justice system while projecting an aura of defiance and victimhood at celebratory campaign events.

Wearing his signature dark suit and red tie, Trump turned and waved to crowds outside the building before heading inside to be fingerprinted and processed.

He arrived at court in an eight-car motorcade from Trump Tower, communicating in real time his anger at the process.

“Heading to Lower Manhattan, the Courthouse,” he posted on his Truth Social platform. “Seems so SURREAL — WOW, they are going to ARREST ME. Can’t believe this is happening in America. MAGA!”

Afterward, Trump lawyer Todd Blanche told reporters that it was a “sad day for the country.”

“You don’t expect this to happen to somebody who was president of the United States,” he said.



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Dutch rail crash: One dead after passenger train hits crane and derails

By Anna Holligan

One person was killed and 19 passengers taken to hospital when an inter-city train collided with a crane and derailed outside The Hague.

Emergency services said the train was carrying about 50 people when the train derailed near the village of Voorschoten.

The accident was the worst on Dutch railways for years and King Willem-Alexander later visited the scene.

Residents looked after some of the passengers with minor injuries.

The crash happened at about 03:25 local time (01:25 GMT) on Tuesday, tearing apart the NS passenger train and bringing down one of the overhead power lines.

A goods train also collided with the crane, which was being used for repairs to two of four railway tracks near Voorschoten.

The person who died had been working for construction company BAM, a spokesperson confirmed. Some of the 19 passengers were in a serious condition. The passenger train driver was also hurt, but the goods train driver was safe.

One of the passenger carriages careered down the grassy slope, while another remained on the tracks. Most of the dou-



Several investigations are underway following Tuesday morning's crash.

ble-decker inter-city train's lower windows were shattered.

"We heard a bang first and then later, a much more intense one," one local resident told the AFP news agency. "Then we heard people screaming. It was not good."

"The crane was there to be used for maintenance," said John Voppen, head of the government network body ProRail.

He said he was 100% sure the crane was not on the tracks being used by the trains, but was unable to say how the two trains collided with it.

"I have been working in the rail industry for years and I don't understand how this could have

happened."

Leiden Central station, which lies between The Hague and Amsterdam, has been closed. Trains are unlikely to be running in the area for days because of damage to the track, described as "enormous".

"This is an incredibly tragic accident," said Voorschoten Mayor Nadine Stemerding. "We regret there was also a fatality. My thoughts go out to all the family and friends of those involved."

Police have launched an inquiry, as has the Dutch Safety Board, which will focus on how two trains could have collided with a crane that was supposed to be on one of two tracks taken out of service

for maintenance.

King Willem-Alexander visited the site after thanking residents who had opened their doors to treat passengers who did not need hospital treatment.

"Our thoughts are with the victims of the train accident at Voorschoten and their families," a statement from the Royal House reads. "Many are now in fear and uncertainty. We deeply sympathise with all of them."

Prime Minister Mark Rutte also expressed his condolences.

This sort of incident is extremely rare in the Netherlands, where the rail systems are generally very safe.

Death of man in police custody ruled a homicide

By **Nadine Yousif**

The death of a man in police custody has been ruled a homicide by asphyxiation by Virginia officials following a formal autopsy.

Irvo Otieno, a 28-year-old black man, died on 6 March while being transferred from a jail to a mental health facility.

A video of the transfer shows police and hospital staff piling on top of Mr Otieno before his death.

Seven deputy sheriffs have been charged with second-degree murder.

Three hospital staff are also facing similar charges in connection to Mr Otieno's death.

An official autopsy conducted by Virginia's Office of the Chief Medical Examiner found that Mr Otieno had died of "positional and mechanical asphyxia with restraints", the office said on Monday.

The medical examiner's office said in a statement that the death had been ruled a homicide.

Prominent civil rights lawyer Ben Crump and lawyer Mark Krudys, who are both representing Mr Otieno's family, said that the cause of death is "not surprising".

They added it corroborates what was seen in a video released by prosecutors that shows the moments leading up to Mr Otieno's death.

"In a chilling parallel to George Floyd's killing, Irvo was held down and excessively restrained to death, when he should have been provided medical help and compassion," the lawyers said in a statement.

"It is tragic that yet another life has been lost to this malicious and deadly restraint technique."

A lawyer for one of the Henrico



Ten people have been charged in connection with the death of Irvo Otieno, who died in police custody on 6 March in Virginia.

County deputy sheriffs charged in relation to Mr Otieno's death argued that the death was not intentional.

"Certainly, there are varying degrees of homicide, and we still firmly believe that this death was an accident," Peter Bowen told a local NBC News network on Monday.

Footage of the incident shows Mr Otieno being dragged into a hospital admissions room in handcuffs and leg irons by several deputy sheriffs, with medical staff following behind.

Later in the video, as many as 10 deputy sheriffs and medical staff are seen pinning down a shirtless Mr Otieno - who is still in handcuffs and leg irons - on the floor.

The video shows he was held down for 11 minutes. Mr Otieno is then seen lying motionless once the deputies and medical staff pull back.

He is then seen being administered emergency aid.

Audio of a 911 call placed by hospital staff during the resuscitation attempts was also released.

In it, a hospital staff member can be heard saying that Mr Otieno was being given CPR, and that he is "very aggressive". The dispatcher then asks for a clarification, saying: "I'm sorry, is the patient aggressive or is he not breathing?"

"He used to be aggressive, right, so they're trying to put him in a restraint then eventually he is no longer breathing," the hospital staff member says.

Mr Otieno was initially arrested on 3 March as the suspect in a possible burglary, a police news release said.

He was placed under an emergency custody order, used when it is believed that a person could harm themselves or others as a result of mental illness.

Police said he then "became physically assaultive towards officers" and was transferred to jail, where he was charged with assault.

Mr Otieno's family said he was suffering a mental health crisis at the time of his arrest, and that he was not allowed access to his medication while he was in custody.

Million-dollar pay packets for women after new Australia deal

SYDNEY (Reuters) - Top Australian women cricketers could earn more than A\$1 million (US\$666,600) a year with increases from a new pay deal topped up by cash earned in India's Women's Premier League and The Hundred in England, Cricket Australia (CA) said on Monday.

The five-year deal includes a headline funding increase of 66% for the women with a player who holds a top tier contract and also plays in the Women's Big Bash League now able to earn A\$800,000 a year.

"I am particularly pleased this (deal) represents another major step forward in the rise of women's cricket," CA chief executive Nick Hockley said in a news release.

"Cricket now clearly offers the best earning opportunities of any team sport



Members of the Australian women's cricket team. (Reuters)

for elite female sportspeople."

The Memorandum of Understanding, agreed between CA and the Australian Cricketers' Association (ACA), also included an increase of 25% in the minimum and average CA contracts for women.

The contracts and retainers will be guaranteed while players are on parental leave and further payments will be offered to help make up for lost match fees.

For the men, the number of central contracts has increased from up to 20 to up to 24 every year to take into account the number of players required for international matches across the three formats.

The proliferation of lucrative Twenty20 tournaments around the world was acknowledged in an increase from A\$2m to A\$3m in the payment pool for Australia's Big Bash League (BBL).

"We have recognised

the need to ensure that the BBL remains highly competitive in a changing global cricket landscape and we're confident this agreement will help maintain its place at the heart of the Australian summer," Hockley added.

Hockley also mentioned the "constructive spirit of partnership" under which talks were conducted with the ACA, a stark contrast with acrimonious negotiations for the last deal in 2017.

Then, CA was forced to back down on an attempt to end the revenue sharing model that had underpinned the agreement with the players for two decades.

That model has been kept in place for the next five years, with players sharing a total of A\$634 million over the period of the deal with another pool of A\$57 million to fund performance-related pay.

Fulham's Mitrovic gets eight-match ban for shoving referee



Fulham striker Aleksandar Mitrovic. (Reuters)

LONDON (Reuters) - Fulham striker Aleksandar Mitrovic has been handed an eight-match ban and a 75,000 pounds (\$94,000) fine for shoving the referee during their FA Cup loss at Manchester United last month, the Football Association said yesterday (Tuesday).

Serbian Mitrovic was sent off after confronting referee Chris Kavanagh and pushing him with his shoulder.

"We claimed the standard punishment which would otherwise apply to

Aleksandar Mitrovic for the sending-off offence of violent conduct that he committed towards the match referee around the 72nd minute was clearly insufficient," the FA's independent Regulatory Commission said in a statement.

"The forward separately admitted that his behaviour and language after being sent off was improper, abusive, insulting and threatening."

Mitrovic will not be able to play for
cont'd on page 20

Willikies Super Stars capture Team Four-Hand domino title

The Willikies Super Stars have captured the Team Four-Hand title in the Antigua and Barbuda National Domino Association's (ABNDA) League.

Super Stars claimed the title after beating Double Six 45-39 during the 10th and final round of matches at the association's headquarters in Ottos over the weekend to finish at the top of the Team Four Hand competition with nine wins and one defeat.

Dominatrixx overcame Bolans Revellers 45-37 to clinch second place as they end the competition with a record of eight wins and two losses from their 10 matches.

Ramplers went on a rampage to beat Unstoppables 72-12 in the other encounter during the final round of Team Four-Hand matches.

Meanwhile, Moise Eagle Warriors have overtaken Dominatrixx to become the new leaders of the Team Three-Hand competition.

Eagle Warriors chalked up 78 points to clinch a narrow one-point win over Ramplers, who secured 77 points and the B Team of Willikies Super Stars with 72 points during the 9th round of matches last weekend.



The Willikies Superstars domino team. (Photo courtesy the ABNDA)

The win lifted Eagle Warriors to an overall total of 22 points to move just half of a point ahead of Dominatrixx who slipped into second place with 21.5 points, while Future along with the A teams of Bolans Revellers and Willikies Super Stars are in joint third place with 21 points apiece.

Dominatrixx relinquished their lead after recording only 63 points to finish last in their

9th round match, which was won by the A Team of Willikies Super Stars with 78 points while Rising Stars finished second in the match by accumulating 72 points.

The other encounters in the 9th round of matches were won by Parham Strikers, Triple Dynamite, Future and Legacy.

Parham Strikers recorded 83 points to prevail against the B Team of Bolans Rev-

ellers with 75 points and the A Team of Bravo with 57 points.

Triple Dynamite amassed 81 points to beat the A Team of Double Six with 79 points and Unstoppables with 70 points.

Future secured 74 points to win their encounter against the C Team of Bolans Revellers with 72 points and the A Team of Bravo who came third with 63 points.

Legacy chalked up 79 points to come out victorious in their encounter against the A Team of Bolans Revellers with 73 points and the B Team of Double Six with 67 points.

cont'd from pg 19

Fulham again until May. During the second half of the 3-1 loss to United at Old Trafford, a confrontation broke out after Fulham's Willian was red-carded for handling the ball in the penalty area following a VAR review.

Fulham manager Marco Silva will also

serve a touchline ban for two games along with a 20,000 pounds fine. Silva angrily addressed the fourth official before being shown a red card.

The London club were fined 40,000 pounds for failing to prevent their players surrounding the referee.

Golden Grove stay unbeaten; Villa return to winning form in Primary School Cup

Defending champions Golden Grove notched up another impressive win to keep their unbeaten run intact and Villa Primary returned to winning form in the latest round of matches in the Primary School Cup football competition.

Following their 13-1 drubbing of Foundation Mixed School and a 7-0 mauling of Old Road, Golden Grove Primary continued their remarkable display in their title defense by surging to another imposing 7-0 victory against Urlings Primary in Group A action at the Golden Grove playing field.

Last year's losing finalists, Five Islands Primary, claimed their first win in three matches by pulling off a 4-2 victory against Olivia David Primary in the same group.

Old Road rebounded from their loss to Golden Grove in their previous outing to prevail 2-1 against the Foundation Mixed School while Jennings and Greenbay Primary cancelled out each other in battling to a 2-2 draw.



A player of Villa Primary (white and black uniform) wins control of the ball against Cedar Grove Primary during their encounter in the Primary School Cup Football Championship at the TN Kirnon School playing field on Friday, 31st March, 2023. (Photo by Elwin Francis)

Villa Primary recovered from their 3-1 loss to Parham in their previous encounter to romp to a 4-2 victory against Cedar Grove Primary in Group C at the TN Kirnon School playing field.

It was the second win for Villa Primary and the second loss for Cedar Grove in three rounds of Group C matches.

TN Kirnon secured their second win in as many outings by snatching a 1-0 win against Parham Primary, who were beaten for the first time after winning their previous two Group C

matches.

Pigotts won for the first time in two outings by surging to a 9-0 drubbing of Nelvie N Gore Primary (Willikies), while Pares prevailed 2-1 against Gospel Light Elementary to record their second win in three matches.

Liberta and Potters Primary kept their 100 percent record intact to remain the only unbeaten teams in Group B

Liberta made it three wins in a row by romping to an 8-0 victory against St Peter's Primary at the Liberta playing field.

Potters Primary beat JT Ambrose 3-1 in a match-up between two teams that had won their previous two encounters.

The combined Free-town/ Newfield primary schools claimed their second win in three outings by cruising to a 3-0 victory against Sea View Farm Primary, their third loss in as many encounters.

Freemansville Primary grabbed their second win in the competition by surging to an 8-3 victory over Cobbs Cross Primary, who were beaten for the third time in as many matches.

cont'd from pg 22

Rasheed Padmore grabbed three wickets for eight runs, Darien Seale bagged three for 29 and Larry Babb claimed two for 10.

Barbados Police raced to victory at 89 without loss in 9.1 overs with Darrell Babb hitting an unbeaten 49 and Mical Stuart cracking 29 not out.

Barbados Police launched their campaign by claiming a six-wicket win against the British Virgin Islands on the first day of the Regional Police Twenty20 Tournament at Weymouth on Sunday.

The British Virgin Islands Police were restricted to 94 for five off their 20 overs after losing the toss and sent in

to bat. Nimar Bolden got 26 and Imran Smith made 24 not out. Darrell Babb picked up two wickets for 10 runs. In reply, Barbados Police secured victory by reaching 98 for four in 10.4 overs. Kadeem Alleyne slammed 50 not out off 29 balls with six fours and a six while Dario Sargeant struck 25. Imran Smith captured three for 22.

Antigua Police make losing start at regional T20 tournament

The Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda made a losing start to their campaign on the second day of the 2023 Regional Police T20 Tournament in Barbados on Monday.

The Antigua and Barbuda Police lost by 23 runs against the St. Vincent & The Grenadines Police at Woodbourne.

St. Vincent & The Grenadines Police made 168 all out in 18.4 overs. Dillon Douglas struck 39, Beneton Stapleton made 36, and Shammon Hooper got 25. James Cornelius captured three for 14 and Orandel Boston picked up three for 25.

Antigua & Barbuda Police were all out for 145 all out from their 20 overs with Malique Gerald slamming 57 off 32 balls with five fours and three sixes.

Malik Marcellin scored 19 and Orandel Boston chipped in with 13. Dillon Douglas took three for 18, Othniel Lewis claimed two for 27 and Beneton Stapleton picked up two for 31.

It was the second win for the St. Vincent & The Grenadines Police who beat Trinidad & Tobago Police by 110 runs on Sunday's opening day at Weymouth.

St. Vincent & The Grenadines Police made 201 for nine off their 20 overs. Beneton Stapleton cracked 44, Salvan Browne hit 42, Dillon Douglas and Othniel Lewis each made 28 and Rickford Walker chipped in with 23.

Damion Brown captured three for 33, Brian Yearwood picked up two for 26 and Mikel Riley took two for 34.

In reply, Trinidad & Tobago Police were dismissed for 91 in 15.2 overs with Nicholas Jugmohan getting 22 while Jide John snapped up four wickets for 16 runs.

However, Trinidad & Tobago Police recovered to beat Grenada Police by nine wickets at Woodbourne on Monday.

Grenada Police made 131 for seven off their 20 overs. Daryl Cyrus hit 28, Lindon Lawrence got 26 and Samuel Charles made 23 not out. Mikel Riley had two for 20 and Darius Besal claimed two for 31.

Trinidad & Tobago Police achieved victory by scoring 132 for one in 15.1 overs. Brandon Ramdial slammed 62 off 41 balls with eight fours and two sixes, while Nicholas Jugmohan hammered 55 not



Batsman Malique Gerald hit a half century but could not stop the Antigua and Barbuda Police cricket team from losing to St Vincent in the 2023 Regional Police T20 Tournament in Barbados on Monday, 3rd April, 2023. (Photo courtesy Neville Nicholls)

out with six fours and a six. on Monday.

Barbados Police made it two wins in as many matches by cruising to a 10-wicket win over the Cayman Islands Police at Weymouth

The Cayman Islands Police were bundled out for 85 in 15.1 overs despite Ravendra Persaud smashing 55. *cont'd on pg 21*