

# SENATOR MARSHALL: WE ARE READY!

*Story on Page 2*



The contestant representing APUA's Customer Service Department, N'Dea Joseph (second from left), is the new Miss APUA, following the company's pageant held as part of activities marking the 50th anniversary of its existence. *Story on page 7.*



## Senator Marshall: We are ready!

Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party candidate for St. Mary's South, Sen. Samantha Marshall, said she and her team are ready for the by-election whenever it is called, following the court ruling on Wednesday that paved the way for a return to the polls in that constituency.

The High Court ruled that the letter of resignation of Kelvin Simon, on June 7 was valid and therefore this means that a by-election must be held in the constituency to fill the vacant seat within 120 days of the submission of the letter.

A member of Sen. Marshall's team, Casworth Aaron had filed an election petition, asking the court to determine that Simon's nomination was not prop-

er as he had not resigned his position as a member of the civil service before Nomination Day.

But, recognizing that they would likely lose the petition when it came before the court, Simon submitted a letter of resignation from parliament and asked that a by-election be immediately triggered.

Speaker of the House, Sir Gerald Watt had initially rejected Simon's letter of resignation, but when he reversed his decision last Friday, it spelled the effective end of the petition case, which was what the court eventually determined.

Sen. Marshall said while she wanted the matter of the illegality of Simon's nomination to be determined



Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party candidate for St. Mary's South, Sen. Samantha Marshall

by the court, she knew all along that a by-election would have been inevitable.

"We have been on the ground, interacting with the constituents and we are getting very positive feedback in our canvassing. We feel confident about our chances. We are prepared for this by-election, we are ready!" she declared.

Sen. Marshall will be running on a theme of 'competence' as she highlights the differences in representation between herself and Simon during his brief stay in parliament, prior to his resignation.

Meanwhile, the Chairman of the Electoral Commission, John Jarvis, said the precise date for the election is the purview of the Governor General, acting on the advice of the Prime Minister.

He said the team at ABEC is ready to go into action as soon as the date is announced.

It will be the first election of any kind since Dame Lorna Simon announced that she was stepping down from the post of Supervisor of Elections.

It is not yet known if parliament will name a new supervisor of elections or recall Simon to administer the upcoming by-election.



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## Haiti and cricket, main topics at CARICOM Heads meeting

The situation in Haiti and the upcoming Cricket World Cup in 2024, captured the focus of the CARICOM Heads at the start of the final day of their 45th Conference at the Hyatt Hotel in Trinidad and Tobago, on Wednesday morning.

Utilizing a system of caucus and plenary meetings, the Heads were also joined by the President of Rwanda in trying to formulate concrete initiatives that will hopefully lead to the resolution of the ongoing Haitian crisis.

Favoring an approach of frank dialogue, Prime Minister Gaston Browne told his colleagues that the time is now to advance beyond “talk,” while viewing Rwanda as a bridge between Africa and the Caribbean.

He stressed the importance of greater collaboration between Rwanda and the Caribbean and urged Rwanda to play a more pivotal role in mobilizing other African leaders to attend the next Africa - Caribbean summit.

On the matter of cricket, Prime Minister Browne and the other leaders were strident in their desire for a transformation of the fortunes of the West Indies male cricket team.

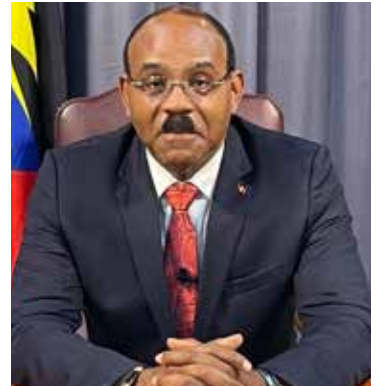
To that end, Prime Minister Browne advised his colleagues that Antigua and

Barbuda’s recommendation is for a regional cricketing development plan to be formulated by Member States, and for CWI to develop cricket from the grassroots up.

The plan should include appropriate facilities, a more scientific approach to the game, and the develop-

ment of psychological resilience and a culture of pride and competitiveness. “The governance talk and blame game are stale and bring no real value,” he noted.

He further stated that “despite our disappointment, we must continue to rally around CWI as we rebuild.”



Prime Minister Gaston Browne

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## PM Browne and US Secretary of State Blinken, meet

Prime Minister Gaston Browne has held discussions with US Secretary of State, Antony Blinken on the final day of the 45th regular meeting of CARICOM heads in Trinidad and Tobago.

Details of the discussions between PM Browne and Secretary Blinken were not immediately disclosed, but it is expected that both senior government representatives would have highlighted the longstanding

close ties between the US and Antigua and Barbuda, and the country's value as a strategic partner of the US on several key international issues, such as the ongoing conflict in Ukraine.

The top US diplomat reaffirmed Washington's commitment to deepen co-operation with the region while addressing the Meeting. He said CARICOM can count on the US, as a neighbour, as a partner, and as a friend.



PM Gaston Browne (left with back slightly turned), US Secretary of State, Anthony Blinken (centre) and Dominica PM Roosevelt Skerritt (right) having an informal chat.

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## Antiguan earns Doctorate in Educational Leadership

Dr. Lois Jeremy-Greene, the daughter of Veronica Charles (Pares Village) and Longford Jeremy (Parham Village), has earned her Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership with a specialization in Instructional Leadership from Northcentral/National University in the United States.

Dr. Greene's dissertation examined the effect of Danielson's Framework for Teaching, comparing teacher effectiveness and student math achievement for a New York City school district.

She has been an educator and math teacher for over 33 years. She is currently an assistant principal for the New York City Department of Education, serving her school community as a school building leader, a teacher evaluator, an instructional supervisor of mathematics and science, a special education supervisor, an iLearn administrator, and the master schedule school programmer.

Dr. Greene graduated from Sunnyside Tutorial and Clare Hall Secondary School in 1989 and the Antigua State College Teacher Training Department in 1993.

She received her Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics from Herbert Lehman College in 2000 and her Master of Arts in Mathematics and Mathematics Education from City College of New York in 2002.

She received her Master of Science in Educational Administration from Mercy College in 2008.

Her research fieldwork includes an experiment in teaching mathematics using games to 13-14-year-olds and the effects of college preparatory mathematics among first-year algebra students, in high school mathematics in a New York City high school.

Dr. Greene considers herself a lifelong learner and is always looking for ways to advance her learning experiences.

Her professional achievements and

recognitions include a school management and leadership certificate in leading learning from Harvard Graduate School of Education, an Executive and Advanced Leadership certification from the National Society of Leadership and Success, and an Advanced Leadership Certificate from the National Excellence in School Leadership Institute.

Dr. Greene is immensely grateful for the love and support of her husband, Andre Greene, and sons (Dre and Akili).

She is thankful for her teachers, who founded her pursuit of lifelong learning and excellence, including the late Mrs. Maureen Oliver, Mr. Cornelius Glasgow, and Mr. Lesroy Merchant.

She is proud of her teacher training background from the Antigua and Barbuda State College Teacher Training Department, which she states successfully prepared her for doctorate research



and dissertation.

She states that her educational philosophy is that effective teaching increases student achievement, inspires life-long learning, and promotes school success.



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## New #CarnivalIsCalling campaign heats up Antigua Carnival

As the excitement continues to build for Antigua's Carnival, 'The Caribbean's Greatest Summer Festival', the Ministry of Education, Sports & Creative Industries, in conjunction with the Antigua and Barbuda Festivals Commission (ABFC), is excited to launch its Social Media takeover campaign, #CarnivalIsCalling, for the 2023 Carnival season.

The #CarnivalIsCalling campaign is the clarion call for all Carnival aficionados, stakeholders, practitioners, participants and enthusiasts to fully immerse themselves in the activities leading up to and during Antigua's Carnival.

#CarnivalIsCalling asks you to answer the call for Mas, Music and Creativity Antigua Carnival 2023.

Carnival lovers are encouraged to use the campaign hashtag across social media, highlighting their preparations for the summer festival, whether it ranges from – practising stilt-walking, singing the latest soca



Mongoose - @Mangoosestudio song, attending the calypso tent, choosing their favourite costume, supporting their pageant contestant, attending the pre-carnival fetes, showcasing their dance moves, or their favourite costumes.

The #CarnivalIsCalling campaign will be supported by popular entertainers whom the Ministry has called upon to spread the Carnival excitement and spirit throughout their networks. The entertainers include.

Steve IBIS Freeland Jr. - @steveibis

Mongoose - @Mangoos-



Lyricks Man - @lyricksman estudio

Dennis Menace Roberts - @Meance\_xl

Island Prince - @island-prince268

Billy King Warrior - @kingwarrior

Leanda-Ann Norville - @Leandanorville

Lyricks Man - @lyricksman

Claudette CP Peters – @Cpthediva

Mario Benjamin - @fetetracker

The carnival influencers will be sharing with their audiences how they are answer-



Claudette CP Peters – @Cpthediva ing the carnival call while incorporating Antigua Carnival messaging into their respective posts.

Steven IBIS Freeland, Influencer, excited to exercise his role as the newly appointed influencer, took to the Streets of St. John's in a Carnival costume to call out persons to answer the call to Carnival. Freeland was also seen on social media showcasing his stilt-walking skills amongst cultural performers.

For more information on the Antigua Carnival, @antiguafestivalsofficial

## N'Dea Joseph, Miss Customer Service crowned Miss APUA 2023

The contestant representing APUA's Customer Service Department, N'Dea Joseph, is the new Miss APUA, following the company's pageant held as part of activities marking the 50th anniversary of its existence.

Joseph will receive a scholarship as her main prize for winning the competition. The scholarship will likely be to pursue studies at the University of the West Indies, Five Islands Campus, offered through the Prime Minister's Scholarship Scheme.

Joseph was the consensus winner at the end of the competition, judged in four categories: Question and Answer, Evening Wear, Talent, and their creative interpretation of



N'Dea Joseph the Inet T-shirt.

The first runner-up spot went to Kimsha Manning - Miss Cash Collections, in the second runner-up position was Tammisha Roberts - Miss Inet, and the third runner-up winner went to Ro-

chelle Kirby - Miss Telecoms Installation & Repairs.

Corporate Communications Officer, Anazette Reynolds described the pageant, as of a particularly high standard and was very well attended.

"Miss Joseph will reign as Miss APUA for a period of 5 years, as the pageant is held every 5 years. That's because the participants are usually those members of staff who recently joined the corporation. Most people remain with APUA until retirement and as they get older, they do not have an interest in participating in pageants," Reynolds stated.

The activities marking

the corporation's 50th anniversary continue on Friday, with Customer Appreciation Day, and later in the evening a staff games night. Next week, APUA will have its popular job-exchange day where employees can apply to work in a different department for a day.

"This is a popular activity with staff, as many have applied to be the General Manager for a day. There will be other events that we will hold during the year. One of the events we are looking at is the return of our popular fete 'Power Rumble' which we are hoping to stage during the Independence celebrations later in the year," Reynolds revealed.

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## RCA installs new board for 2023-2024 Rotary Year

The Rotary Club of Antigua (RCA) will focus on various projects, including raising awareness about persons living with disabilities, in the 2023-2024 Rotary Year, under Rotary International's theme "Create Hope in the World."

This is according to the Club's new President, Michael Spencer, who along with a new board of Directors was installed in a Handover and Awards Ceremony at the Hodges Bay Club over the weekend.

President Michael, who received the baton from outgoing President, Ilean Ramsey (2022-2023), expressed his gratitude for the trust bestowed upon him and his excitement to lead a dedicated group of individuals toward making a meaningful difference in the twin island state.

"I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to our outgoing President Ilean and her board for the exceptional leadership and unwavering dedication to the ideals of Rotary. Over the years, our club has accomplished remarkable feats, transforming lives and making a lasting impact on our community.



I am inspired by the examples of all of our past Presidents and will strive to build upon the strong foundation they have laid," President Michael expressed.

President Michael further highlighted the four main areas of focus for the new Rotary Year as, Community Service, Member Engagement and Capacity Building, Succession Planning, and Disability Awareness.

"Through our community service projects, we will address the pressing needs of our local communities, whether it's supporting education, healthcare, or environmental sustainability. By engaging with local organizations and leveraging our collective expertise, we can make a significant difference in the lives of those who need it most," he emphasized.

The newly appointed Board Members for the 2023-2024 term are as follows:

1. President: Michael Spencer
2. Vice President: Evangeline Allen
3. Secretary: Rozanne Emanuel
4. Treasurer: Linda Watkins
5. Membership Chair: Barbara Jarvis
6. Youth Services Director: Samoya Kirby
7. Rotary Foundation Chair: Denise Armstrong
8. Service Projects Chair: Kirk Francis
9. Public Relations Chair: Elisa Graham
10. Club Administration Chair: JoAnne Scotland-Gilkes
11. Sergeant-At-Arms: Salem Khoully

President Michael further committed to fostering international understanding and cooperation through global partnerships, friendship, and collaboration, not only within the local community but also across borders. The Club is currently in the marketing and promotion phase of its major fundraiser, the Colours Fete, taking place on July 22nd, 2023 at Barnacle Point, with the theme "Fire and Ice."

## New activities added to annual St. Paul's Summer Camp

The annual St. Paul's Summer Camp organized by area representative, E.P Chet Greene, is now underway with the young people from the villages making up the constituency, being exposed to new skills this year.

Greene said, along with the classes in pan, guitar, and other musical instruments, the organisers, this year, have added sailing, a key activity of St Paul, as well as squash and lawn tennis.

"Our aim is to introduce the young people to a variety of skills, as well as to expose

them to the cultural morays of our people. These are an important two weeks in the lives of the youth from ages 5 - 13 years, which are the critical formative years for young people. We are convinced that introducing young people to positive activities at an early age helps to build better men and women by the time they enter their teenage years and early adulthood," Greene explained.

The MP said he is happy with the response of both parents and young people to the camp each year.

"We have had upwards of two hundred young people attending the camp in the past, and I expect that we will reach the 200 mark this year as well," he noted.

Campers are fed each day and they have an ample supply of water on hand as well. As has been the custom, this year they will participate in an outdoor activity which includes a hike through one of the historic trails in the area.

Additionally, since he holds the Ministry of Agriculture portfolio, Greene said he also intends to include an

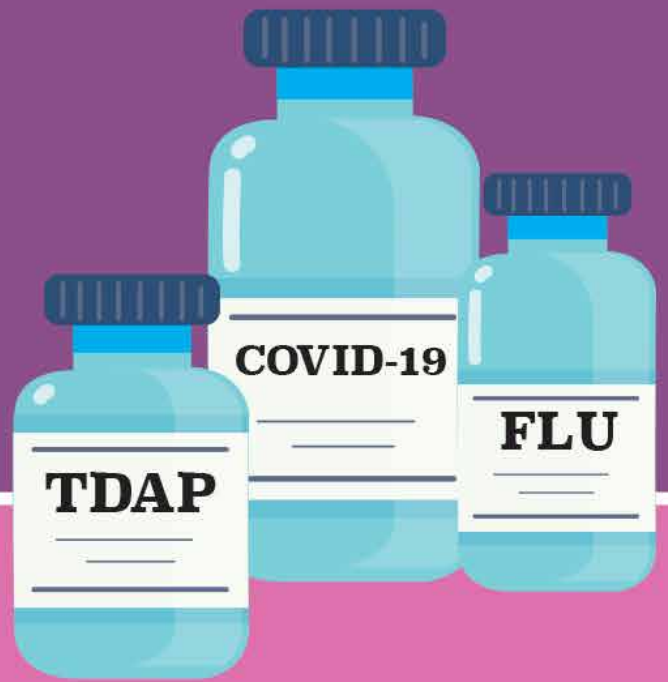
agricultural tour this year. "It is important that our young people get an early understanding of the importance of agriculture, especially as we as a government have made national food security one of the key pillars upon which we intend to build the nation's development," Greene stated.

The camp is being held under the theme 'St. Paul's Youth Empowered to Succeed'. Sailing, Squash, Table Tennis, Pan, Pickleball, Warri, Chess, Piano, and Guitar are included in the activities this year.



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# Environment



## Why shipping faces a showdown over greenhouse gas

BBC - Ships crisscrossing our oceans give off as much planet-warming carbon through their smokestacks in a year as the whole of Germany.

The massive shipping industry is responsible for transporting nine-tenths of our goods around the world.

But it doesn't yet have a goal for cutting emissions to "net zero".

A UN summit starting on Monday hopes to change that.

Reaching "net zero" would mean that any remaining shipping emissions were matched by actively removing greenhouse gases from the atmosphere. Some delegates want this to happen by 2050 and for emissions to be halved by 2030.

Campaigners say this would be the climate "deal of the decade".

For years, the shipping industry, governments and environmental groups have wrangled on how to make the transport of goods by sea greener.

The issue was deemed just too difficult to be included in the 2015 Paris climate pact to keep down global warming.

It matters because around 90% of the products and goods the world consumes travel by ship.

These vessels often burn highly polluting fuels which contribute as much as 3% of the world's global



Protestors and campaigners are putting pressure on shipping nations to curb carbon more quickly.

carbon dioxide emissions, roughly the same amount as that of Germany or 243 coal plants.

That could grow by as much as 50% by the middle of this century if stronger action isn't taken, experts have warned.

The shipping industry's current plans only envisage a halving of emissions by the middle of this century, a commitment that scientists say is far out of line with the Paris climate agreement.

This week, under the control of the UN's International Maritime Organisation (IMO), delegates from 175 shipping countries will meet in London to try and agree on a new timeline for completely decarbonising their industry.

Campaigners want to see a much tougher target, with a reduction of approximately half by 2030 and a new net-zero goal for 2050. Others want to go further

still and see a full decarbonisation brought forward to 2040.

"If member states get this right, they can set the shipping sector in line to meet the Paris temperature targets and promote investment in green technologies that will completely transform the sector," said Kerlene Wills, Director for Ocean and Climate, UN Climate Foundation.

Many countries are in favour - and some shipping companies also want to push forward with plans for cleaner transport. The world's second largest container shipping line, Maersk, are taking a bullish approach, setting their own goal of zero emissions by 2040.

Previous attempts to strengthen climate ambition at the IMO, have fallen foul of a number of countries such as China, India and Saudi Arabia, who are keen

to protect their own domestic shipping interests.

Observers say that if the London meeting can agree these new goals for all shipping, it would be the biggest advance against climate change since the Paris agreement.

"You would quite genuinely have a climate agreement not just of the year, but probably of the decade," said John Maggs, from the Clean Shipping Coalition of campaigners, speaking to reporters.

Within the wider industry, there is a recognition that reform is necessary but there is a concern that new targets will be too challenging and expensive.

However recent research shows that cutting shipping emissions in half this decade would only add some 10% to the total costs of operations.

Last week, the Secretary-General of the IMO, Kitack Lim urged delegates "to make the compromises and find solutions", describing 2023 as "a year of decisive climate action".

His views were echoed by Faig Abbasov from campaigners Transport and Environment:

"Waiting until 2050 to decarbonise is a bit like waiting until your house burns before you call the fire brigade... what is needed is political will; IMO needs to either step up or ship out!"



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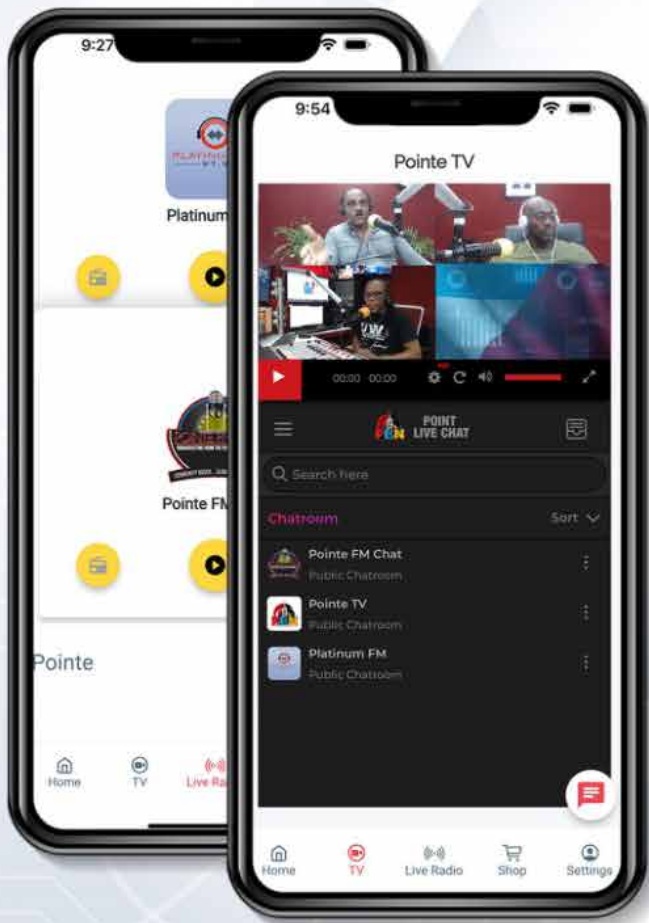


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# Energy

## Oil giant Shell warns cutting production 'dangerous'

By Simon Jack

Cutting oil and gas production would be "dangerous and irresponsible", the boss of energy giant Shell has told the BBC.

Wael Sawan insisted that the world still "desperately needs oil and gas" as moves to renewable energy were not happening fast enough to replace it.

He warned increased demand from China and a cold winter in Europe could push energy prices and bills higher again.

Mr Sawan angered climate scientists who said Shell's plan to continue current oil production until 2030 was wrong.

Professor Emily Shuckburgh, a climate scientist at the University of Cambridge, said firms such as Shell should focus on accelerating the green transition "rather than trying to suggest the most vulnerable in society are in any way best served by prolonging our use of oil and gas".

Mr Sawan told the BBC: "I respectfully disagree." He added: "What would be dangerous and irresponsible is cutting oil and gas production so that the cost of living, as we saw last year, starts to shoot up again."

The world is in a race to ditch fossil fuels in favour of greener alternatives as globally leaders have pledged to keep the world from warm-



Shell chief executive Wael Sawan.

ing by more than 1.5C this century.

Last year the European Commission outlined how the EU would speed up its shift to green energy to end its dependency on Russian oil and gas.

Many countries do not have the infrastructure to move to more sustainable forms of energy.

Mr Sawan said an international bidding war for gas last year saw poorer countries like Pakistan and Bangladesh unable to afford Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) shipments that were instead diverted to Northern Europe.

"They took away LNG from those countries and children had to work and study by candlelight," he said. "If we're going to have a transition it needs to be a just transition that doesn't just work for one part of the world."

The Committee of Climate Change found household gas appliances were linked to respiratory prob-

lems and cardiovascular disease.

Claire Fyson, co-head of climate policy at Climate Analytics, a global science and policy institute, told the BBC: "The idea that it's a choice between our addiction to fossil fuels or working by candlelight is a gross misrepresentation of reality, when we know renewables are cleaner, cheaper and better for public health."

The UK has pledged to spend £11.6bn on international climate finance but a memo seen by the BBC said economic shocks like the Covid pandemic had "turned a stretching target into a huge challenge".

The head of the International Energy Agency, Fatih Birol, has said that "if governments are serious about the climate crisis, there can be no new investments in oil, gas and coal from now".

While head of the UN Antonio Guterres said investment in new oil and gas production was "economic

and moral madness".

Shell has a long history and a headquarters in the UK. But Mr Sawan said a lack of clarity and stability on energy policy and taxation risked making the UK a less attractive place to invest compared with more welcoming countries. The UK has increased tax on UK-derived profits from 40 to 75% until 2028 unless oil and gas prices fall below thresholds for a sustained period - which most energy experts doubt will happen.

The UK currently imports more than half of its oil and gas - and that proportion is expected to rise without renewed investment in the North Sea. Shell recently decided to sell its stake in a major new undeveloped oil field at Cambo.

"Ultimately the government needs to make a call as to their views on imported versus domestic production," said Mr Sawan.

"When you do not have the stability you require in these long-term investments, that raises questions when we compare that to other countries where there is very clear support for those investments."

Mr Sawan was also keen to stress the warm welcome extended to the company by the New York Stock Exchange at a recent investors' meeting where they laid out

*cont'd on pg 13*



## Nxivm cult: US actor Allison Mack released early from prison

By Madeline Halpert

US actor Allison Mack has been released from prison early after serving two years for her role in a sex-trafficking case tied to a cult-like group.

The 40-year-old pleaded guilty to racketeering and conspiracy charges in April 2019 related to her efforts to recruit women to the Nxivm sex cult.

Mack, best known for her role in the television series *Smallville*, was sentenced to three years in prison.

The Federal Bureau of Prisons confirmed she had been released on Monday.

Nxivm, pronounced “nexium”, started in 1998 as a self-help programme. It claims to have worked with more than 16,000 people including the son of a former Mexican president and Hollywood actresses such as Mack.

Prosecutors say Mack helped recruit and groom women as sexual partners for the group’s leader, Keith Raniere. Though Raniere, 62, was at the top of this structure and the only man, Mack served as one of his top female deputies.

Female recruits were allegedly



Prosecutors say Mack helped recruit and groom women as sexual partners for the leader of the Nxivm group.

branded with his initials and expected to have sex with him in exchange for becoming a part of the group, which was based in Albany, New York.

The news of Mack’s release was initially reported by the New York newspaper Albany Times Union.

Mack, who was arrested in 2018, was facing as much as 17 years in prison but saw her sentence reduced after providing evidence to help prosecutors pursue their case against Raniere.

In 2020, he was sentenced to 120

years in prison for multiple crimes, including forcing women to be his sexual “slaves”.

Before her sentencing, Mack apologised to those she said had been harmed by her actions, calling her involvement with the group “the biggest mistake and regret of my life”.

“I am sorry to those of you that I brought into Nxivm,” she said. “I am sorry I ever exposed you to the nefarious and emotionally abusive schemes of a twisted man.”

*cont’d from pg 12*

their plans to cut costs and maximise profits.

“The welcome we had there was exemplary. The Shell flag was waving next to the New York Stock Exchange flag,” he said.

He said that the officials there had underlined his feeling that the US was more supportive of oil and gas companies.

“They said we continue to value a company that provides us the energy we des-

perately need. That resonated with me as a person who comes from Lebanon where we are starved of energy.”

Mr Sarwan did not rule out moving Shell’s headquarters and stock market listing to the US. American oil companies command higher prices for their shares - Exxon Mobil for example is worth 40% more than Shell per dollar of profit.

“There are many who question whether that valuation gap can only be bridged

if we move to the US. A move of headquarters is not a priority for the next three years.”

But after that? “I would never rule out anything that could potentially create the right circumstances for the company and its shareholders. Ultimately, I am in the service of shareholder value,” he said.

Although Shell says it has no plans to move its headquarters or stock market listing from London to New

York for the next three years, Mr Sarwan’s comments will add to fears that London’s stock market is losing its lustre as a venue for multinational companies to raise money after technology darling ARM Holdings recently announced plans to move its primary listing to the US.

A move of the UK’s most valuable UK company to the US would seriously dent the UK’s financial prestige and cost jobs in the financial services sector.

## Guyanese minister Nigel Dharamlall resigns

Embattled Local Government minister Nigel Dharamlall has resigned as a Member of Parliament and Cabinet member. President of the Republic of Guyana Dr Irfaan Ali made the announcement last night.

In June, a 16-year-old schoolgirl made a serious allegation against the Local Government Minister. Several events followed this as Dharamlall, who denied the allegation, proceeded on leave to facilitate the investigations, and was then arrested and placed on one million dollars bail.

Last week, the schoolgirl indicated that she no longer wanted to pursue the matter.

Following this, the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) on Tuesday advised she will not proceed with any charges against the minister based on all that is before her.

However, Guyana's President said

Minister Dharamlall has advised that he will tender his resignation as the interest of the government is important to him and he will not want anyone to bring the government into disrepute.

Dharamlall also advised President Ali that these allegations have affected him personally and as such, he offered to resign as Minister and as a Member of Parliament.

"I've, therefore, accepted his resignation as a Cabinet Member and a Member of Parliament," said President Ali.

The President said from inception, he advised the population that he would allow the system to work.

"I would never and the government would never intervene in the system. We've allowed an independent investigation; the minister proceeded on leave to ensure that an independent investigation was conducted. The Po-



*Nigel Dharamlall.*

lice did their investigation and also all the other agencies, including the DPP."

The President said now that they have received the advice of the DPP, the Minister has asked to resign as a Member of Cabinet and Member of Parliament, and he has accepted that resignation.

## T&T Court rules that all migrants, refugees can be deported

CMC - The Trinidad and Tobago High Court on Tuesday declared that 1951 Refugee Convention obligations do not apply and cannot be enforced in the twin island republic.

This means that all immigrants are subject to the provisions of the Immigration Act and as a result, all migrant, refugees and asylum seekers can be deported even if they have registered with United Nations High Commissioner of Refugees (UNHCR).



Justice Frank Seepersad presided over the case was brought by Yohan Jesus Rangel Dominguez who was seeking to reverse a decision by the Minister of

National Security to issue a deportation order in March this year.

"The issue as to whether the process engaged in relation to the Claimant adhered

to the principles of natural justice depends upon the prevailing circumstances considered against the need to ensure that there was 'fairness'. The Claimant was interviewed, his representations were duly recorded and they were included in the report, which was presented to the Minister. In the circumstances, there is no merit in the assertion that the Claimant was denied an opportunity to be heard or that he was treated in a man-

*cont'd on pg 15*



## USVI: Man on bail allegedly kills detective, top cop calls for reforms

By Dillon De Shong

“A callous and cowardly act”, is how US Virgin Islands Police Commissioner Ray Martinez described yesterday’s shooting death of Detective Delberth Phipps.

Phipps, a seven-year veteran with the Virgin Islands Police Department (VIPD), was shot while he and another officer were responding to a report that a heavily armed man was seen walking in an area known as “Jah Yard”.

A statement from the VIPD said Phipps and his colleague engaged the suspect, who was identified as 50-year-old Richardson Dangleben, and he allegedly shot at them with a high-powered assault rifle.

Phipps, 42, was taken to the Roy Lester Schneider Regional Medical Centre where he died while receiving treatment.

Dangleben was wounded and remains at hospital.

Fighting back tears, Martinez took the territory’s judicial system to task as he noted Phipps may have been alive today had the court done its job.



“The suspect in [yesterday’s] shooting was out on bail for a February first-degree murder charge,” he said.

“I have friends, colleagues and [know] individuals that work for the judicial branch. But [yesterday’s] episode and many before us speaks volumes to the fact that the court system and our judges need to do better when it comes to bail”.

He continued: “I understand and respect the court’s position that bail should not be used simply to incarcerate or to keep someone off the street. But in that same token, it should be. There are individuals, who should

not be on our streets, once the police department has done its due diligence to make arrests. I know I’m going to take some heat from the court for this but it is what it is”.

Martinez noted local criminal law gives the court power to withhold bail from someone charged with first-degree murder.

“Our judges are too lax. They are too soft when it comes to bail. They hide behind the fact that it’s their way, it’s their opinion. And who gets the blame when these individuals are back on the street, it’s the VIPD and the Attorney General’s Office because that’s who the community sees as the

individuals who allowed them to be out when in fact that’s not the case,” he said.

Martinez hopes this incident would make the court rethink how it issues bail.

Meanwhile, US Virgin Islands Governor Albert Bryan said flags would be flown at half-staff for one week in “honour of Detective Phipps’ service and sacrifice”.

Bryan said he stands in support of Phipps’ family and the VIPD.

“I am incensed and deeply saddened by the loss of Detective Delberth Phipps Jr, who was killed in the line of duty this morning.

“This tragic incident reminds us of the risks our law enforcement officers face daily in their unwavering commitment to keeping our community safe and is a devastating blow not only to his family, friends, and colleagues but to the entire Virgin Islands community,” the governor said.

**cont’d from pg 14**

ner which violated the principles of natural justice,” Seepersad noted

The judge also said that the Court could ascertain no identifiable reason to set aside the Minister’s decision to issue a Deportation Order.

Seepersad said that the obligations enumerated under the 1951 Refugee Conven-

tion and the principle of non-refoulement do not apply to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago as there has been no domestic incorporation.

He also declared that Section 11 of the Immigration Act is not unconstitutional as it does not offend the rule of law nor does it stand in conflict with provisions of the Constitution.

# Palestinian families return to rubble in Jenin refugee camp

BBC - "We had to flee. Or my daughters and I would have been killed," Fatina al-Ghoul says, weeping as she looks back at a pile of rubble that was once her home.

A bulldozer has already arrived and is clearing up debris from her street, which has been left in ruins.

She and nine other women, her family and neighbours, fled their homes in Jenin's refugee camp during one of the largest Israeli operations in the occupied West Bank in years.

Fatina's family is one of hundreds now returning to what's left of their homes, decimated by drone strikes and fighting between the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) and armed Palestinians.

The IDF described it as a "counter-terrorism operation", saying they were targeting weapons stores and manufacturing facilities belonging to militant groups in the area.

But the Palestinian foreign ministry condemned the operation as "open war against the people of Jenin".

Hundreds of Israeli troops backed by drone strikes entered Jenin refugee camp - where almost 24,000 people live in an area of less than half a square kilometre - on Monday morning, triggering intense gun battles with armed Palestinians inside.

Palestinian health of-



*The streets inside Jenin's refugee camp have been decimated.*

officials said 12 Palestinians were killed over the next two days, including four children, and that more than 100 others were injured. The Israeli military said one of its soldiers was killed as its forces started to withdraw on Tuesday night.

"My house has been completely destroyed. Everything is broken and burned. It's all damaged," Fatina says.

Several local hospitals also told the BBC that they were struggling to cope with the fallout from the fighting.

Thousands of locals also took to the streets on Wednesday for the funerals of those killed. So far, it has been confirmed to the BBC that eight of the dead were members of the military wings of the main Palestinian factions.

Guns were fired in sup-

port of the deceased fighters.

Many residents say they blame the Palestinian Authority (PA), the main governing body of the Palestinians in the West Bank, for not protecting them during the operation.

Videos circulating online showed two PA representatives forced to leave a funeral after being chastised by the crowd.

Residents complained that at the beginning of the operation the PA's security forces simply allowed the Israeli military vehicles to enter the city.

Fatina says she also blames the PA for their lack of action. "This is our home. We are living in fear, and we are the only ones left to protect it."

"There are agreements between the PA and Israel. The PA has not broken the

agreement and security services have done their job during the military operation according to what it was asked to do by the Palestinian leadership," Mayor of Jenin City and PA member Akram Rajoub told the BBC.

One fighter from a Palestinian militant group said that Israeli forces had successfully destroyed several of its facilities, including a storage unit containing explosives.

However, the scale of the operation inside a densely populated city and refugee camp was criticised by the UN's human rights chief.

For many residents like Fatina, immediate access to drinking water, food and shelter is now critical.

"Tonight we will sleep on the streets. We can't even sit down inside the house. There is nowhere else to go, for us or any of our neighbours."





The Pentagon

## Pentagon to tighten controls after classified documents leak

By **George Bowden**

The Pentagon will change its security policies after a review into a big leak of classified files found officials struggled to keep up with the number of staff who had top secret access.

New measures include the appointment of officers to control the level of access to top secret data and installing systems to detect electronic devices.

It follows the unauthorised publication of dozens of classified files online.

Ex-airman Jack Teixeira, 21, is charged with leaking files, which he denies.

The results of a 45-day review of Pentagon policies and procedures, ordered by US Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin in the wake of the leak, suggested the need to increase oversight for those trusted with classified national security information.

A senior defence official suggested to reporters at a briefing that Pen-

tagon security protocols had struggled to keep pace with the growth in the number of cleared personnel and the number of facilities where secret files are accessed.

While some existing policies will be reinforced, others will be updated and new rules developed to address existing gaps, the defence department said.

The review concluded there was no “single point of failure” in the military’s procedures, and said the overwhelming majority of staff with access comply with security policies and procedures.

But it recommended the defence department increase its spending on security measures, create a new office for insider threats, and increase the number of staff overseeing the handling of classified documents.

The review suggested tightening security measures to prevent the use of electronic devices inside rooms where

classified data is held and where confidential information or images could be photographed or recorded.

Mr Teixeira, who is in prison awaiting trial after being arrested in April, allegedly leaked files on the online chatroom platform Discord, a popular hangout for gamers.

According to prosecutors, Mr Teixeira wrote versions of sensitive information and posted it to the chatroom. Later, he is said to have shared photos of US intelligence material after he grew frustrated with a lack of response from the group’s users.

Mr Teixeira, a former member of the Air National Guard 102nd Intelligence Wing based in Massachusetts, faces up to 15 years in prison over charges of unauthorised transmission of defence information.

He pleaded not guilty to six federal counts of wilful retention and transmission of national defence information in June.

# Philadelphia shooting: Suspect charged with killing five

By Holly Honderich

A suspect has been charged with five counts of murder after a mass shooting in Philadelphia on Monday, according to the local district attorney.

Kimbrady Carriker, 40, was also charged with attempted murder and carrying a firearm without a licence.

Five people - including a 15-year-old boy - were killed and two were wounded in south-western Philadelphia.

The suspect, who was not required to enter a plea during Wednesday's court appearance, is being held without bail.

"Public safety is clearly an issue. There are no set conditions to ensure the safety of the community," Judge Naomi Williams said during the hearing.

Wearing a bullet-proof vest and carrying an AR-15-style rifle, a handgun, a police scanner and ammunition, the suspect appeared to fire randomly along several blocks of Philadelphia's Kingsessing neighbourhood on Monday night.

Officers ultimately arrested Mr Carriker after chasing him on foot, and found an additional handgun in his possession.

The suspect has no known connection to those killed. Authorities have identified the victims as



*The suspect appeared to shoot indiscriminately.*

Daujan Brown, 15; Lashyd Merritt, 20; Ralph Moralis, 59; Dymir Stanton, 29; and Joseph Wamah Jr, 31.

At a press conference, Wamah's twin sister Josephine described him as "a kind soul" and passionate artist who "was like a second father to me".

"It's hard to wake up from this," she said. "I don't understand how someone could do that to my brother."

Two children, including a two-year-old, were also shot in Monday night's attack.

Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner told reporters Mr Carriker had a prior gun-related misdemeanour charge but was in legal possession of his firearm.

The unfired handgun he owned, however, was of the untraceable 'ghost gun' variety, Mr Krasner said.

He told CNN the shooting was a "random, premeditated deliberate killing carried out with an assault rifle. This was someone who set out to kill strangers, which of course has become way too common in the United States."

Investigators from Mr Krasner's office said the suspect was "exhibiting abnormal behaviour" observed by those living with him, including wearing a bullet-proof vest at home.

"They thought he was getting more and more agitated as the days were passing, and their way of dealing with it was just to avoid and not interfere with him, even though they all live in the same house," said Assistant District Attorney Joanne Pescatore.

But she was not assigning blame to them, she add-

ed.

In sum, Mr Carriker is facing five counts of murder, five counts of attempted murder, 10 counts of assault, 10 counts of recklessly endangering another person and four counts of weapons charges, according to the District Attorney's office.

Mr Carriker's next court date is scheduled for 24 July.

Philadelphia's mass shooting came just a day after two people died and 28 were injured - about half of them children - in a shooting in Baltimore, Maryland. Police there are still searching for multiple suspects who opened fire during an annual community gathering.

And late on Monday, a shooting in Fort Worth, Texas, after a local 4 July festival left at least three people dead and eight others wounded.



## Leewards lose first game in CWI Men's Rising Stars Under-19 tournament

The Leeward Islands have made a losing start in the defense of their Cricket West Indies (CWI) Rising Stars Men's Under-19 Championship in St. Vincent on Tuesday.

The Leewards lost to the Windward Islands by 42 runs at the Arnos Vale playing field in one of three opening-round matches in the 50-Over Championship.

The Windwards posted 200 for eight from their 50 overs batting first, thanks to 35 from Tarrique Edward and 32 from Ackeem Auguste. Kimani Nisbett took three for 27, and Antiguan leg-spinner Micah McKenzie claimed two for 30 in his 10 overs.

Chasing 201 to win, the Leeward Islands were dismissed for 158 in 45.4 overs. Opener Michael Palmer and vice-captain Jewel Andrew each made 31, and Michael Greaves chipped in with 28. Tarrique Edward completed a fine all-round effort by taking three for 23 in his 10 overs.

Jamaica and Barbados recorded wins in the other two opening-round matches. Jamaica were the most dominant team on the day, securing an eight-wicket win over Guyana at the Cumberland playing field.

In a game reduced to 30 overs per side after a rain delay, the Guyanese were first skittled out for just 78

in 23.4 overs.

Michael Clarke led the Jamaicans with the ball by taking three for 13, and Reon Edwards took three for 18. Tamarie Redwood claimed two for 12, and Deshawn James claimed two for 18.

Jamaica achieved victory at 78 for two in 14.5 overs using the Duckworth/Lewis Method. Jordan Johnson hit an unbeaten 28; opener Adrian Weir made 19; and Steven Wedderburn struck 18 not out.

At the Sion Hill playing field, a match reduced to 39 overs per side saw defending champions Barbados beat Trinidad & Tobago by 37 runs.

Barbados posted 152 all-out from their 39 overs batting first. Nathan Sealy topscored with 35, Isaiah Folkes hit 25 not out, and Joshua Dorne chipped in with 24.

Andrew Rambaran took three for 20 from his eight overs, and Jacen Agard captured three for 41 in seven overs.

Barbados then produced an excellent bowling display to dismiss Trinidad & Tobago for 115 in 34 overs.

Rajeev Ramnath made a fighting 35 for T&T as pacers Renecio Smith and Dre Springer took seven wickets from 10 overs between them. Smith took four for 24, while Springer picked



*The Windward Islands all-rounder Tarrique Edward produced a fine performance to lead his team to victory over the Leeward Islands in their opening one-day match in the Cricket West Indies Rising Stars Men's Under-19 Championship at the Arnos Vale playing field in St. Vincent on Tuesday, July 4th, 2023.*

up three for 36.

Meanwhile, the CWI Rising Stars Women's Under-19 30-over tournament also bowled off on Tuesday in Trinidad. However, only one game was played, with rain washing out the other two.

The Windward Islands girls defeated Guyana by six wickets in a reduced 13-over game at Gilbert Park in California, while T&T's match against Barbados at the National Cricket Centre (NCC) and the game between Jamaica and the Leeward Islands at UWI SPEC in St. Augustine were both abandoned.

At Gilbert Park, Guyana were restricted to 40 for two, and the Windwards

replied with 41 for four off 11.2 overs. The Women's Under-19 competition continues today with T&T in action against the Windwards at Gilbert Park.

In the other games today, the Leewards will face Guyana at the NCC in Couva, and Jamaica will tackle Barbados at the UWI SPEC.

The men's Under-19 tournament will also continue in St. Vincent today. The Leeward Islands will face Guyana at the Cumberland playing field, Trinidad & Tobago will take on Jamaica at the Arnos Vale playing field, and the Windward Islands will clash with Barbados at the Sion Hill playing field.

## Holder and Joseph to return early from World Cup Qualifiers

West Indies players Jason Holder and Alzarri Joseph will depart early from the ICC Cricket World Cup Qualifiers in Zimbabwe. The experienced duo will miss the last two Super Six matches as they return to the Caribbean.

This is with the view of managing the workloads of the two bowlers ahead of the upcoming Cycle Pure Agarbathi Test Series against India.

The duo will miss the West Indies two remaining matches in the ICC Cricket World Cup Qualifiers against Oman yesterday and Sri Lanka tomorrow.



West Indies and Antiguan fast bowler Alzarri Joseph (CWI Media)

Lead Selector, Dr. Desmond Haynes said, "Jason and Alzarri are two of our leading bowlers in all formats.

"We have a full sched-

ule for the upcoming series against India, where we begin the new ICC World Test Championship, then followed by the CG United ODIs and the five T20Is.

"Therefore, we had dialogue, and it was felt the best move at this time is to have two of our leading bowlers return early from Zimbabwe."

The Cycle Pure Agarbathi Test Series will be the first fixtures for both West Indies and India in the new 2023-2025 ICC World Test Championship.

The first Test will be at Windsor Park, Dominica, from July 12th to 16th, which will be followed by the historic second Test from July 20th to 24th at Queen's Park Oval in Trinidad – marking the 100th Test match between West Indies and India.

## West Indies beat Oman in World Cup Qualifier

The West Indies recorded their first win in the Super Six stage of the ongoing ICC World Cup Qualifier, defeating Oman by seven wickets with 62 balls to spare in an inconsequential match in Harare yesterday (Wednesday).

Brandon King scored 100 off 104 balls, with 15 fours, while Shai Hope made an unbeaten 63 as the West Indies remained largely unchallenged in the contest, scoring 222 for three in 39.4 overs after restricting Oman to 221 for nine in 50 overs.

Put in to bat first, Oman were struggling at 116 for six after 32 overs, but half-centuries from Shoaib Khan (50 from 54 balls, 5x4s, 1x6s) and Suraj Kumar (53 not out from 65 balls, 5x4s, 1x6s) propelled them past the 200-run mark.

To their credit, Shoaib and Suraj did well with the bat to add 85 off 91



West Indies batsman Brandon King, right, celebrates after reaching his century against Oman in their ICC World Cup Qualifier in Harare, Zimbabwe, Wednesday, July 5th, 2023. (ICC Media)

balls for the seventh wicket.

Opening batter Kashyap Prajapati (31), Oman's centurion in their last game against the Netherlands, Ayaan Khan (30) and Mohammad Nadeem

(20) failed to convert their starts.

Romario Shepherd was the pick of the bowlers for the West Indies, capturing three for 44 in his 10 overs,

*cont'd on pg 21*





Players of the West Indies women team celebrate after taking a wicket against Ireland during the first T20 International at the Daren Sammy Cricket Ground in St. Lucia on Tuesday, July 4th, 2023. (CWI Media)

## West Indies Women win thriller in opening T20I

GROS ISLET, St. Lucia- West Indies Women defeated Ireland Women by two wickets to win the opening encounter in the three-match T20 International series at the Daren Sammy Cricket Ground on Tuesday.

Batting first, Ireland were restricted to 112 for seven off their 20 overs.

Hayley Matthews grabbed three for 22, Cherry-Ann Fraser claimed two for 22, and debutant Ashmini Munisar took one for 16.

Ireland captain Laura Delany top-scored with 34 and Eimear Richardson chipped in with 22.

In their run-chase, the West Indies lost wickets in consistent periods, which

slowed their scoring and forced the home side to clinch victory with the last ball of the match.

Skipper Hayley Matthews top-scored with 37 and Afy Fletcher chipped in with a valuable 19 when the game looked like it was slipping away from the Caribbean side.

But Vice-Captain She-

maine Campbelle guided the team to their two-wicket win by taking a single off the final ball.

Speaking after the match, Matthews said, "A lot of nerves coming down to the end, but still a lot of positives we can take from today's game."

"We did a good job restricting Ireland to 112 on a really good batting wicket. Personally, I was happy to contribute to the win."

"Ashmini Munisar making her debut, how economical she bowled and taking her first wicket was one of the positives and it's a good sign for the future."

The two teams will clash in the second T20 International at the same venue today at 5 pm.

### cont'd from pg 20

while Kyle Mayers took two for 31 from his seven overs and Kevin Sinclair claimed one for 42 from his 10.

In reply, Johnson Charles (4) was dismissed by Kaleemullah whereas No. 3 batter Keacy Carty fell for 29, after adding 80 runs for the second wicket with King.

The right-handed King added another 96 for the third wicket with Hope, who took his side over the line in the company of Nicholas Pooran (19 not out).

For the West Indies, this was their first win in four matches of the Super Six round while Oman suffered a fifth defeat on the trot.

The West Indies will not be a part of a 50-over cricket World Cup for the first time in 48 years as the Caribbean side has already been knocked out of the qualification race.

The ICC Cricket World Cup will be played in India from October 5th to November 19th this year.



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## 300 snatch narrow win against Dredgers in T20 contest

The 300 snatched a narrow two-run win against the Dredgers in the latest round of matches in the Antigua and Barbuda Softball Cricket Association's (ABSCA) Men's T20 Competition.

The 300 won the toss and batted, scoring 128 for seven off their allotted 20 overs. Justin Pereira hit 36, and Kennedy Tonge struck 32. Gersham Millington captured three for 37, and Rae Charles picked up two for 16.

In reply, the Dredgers just fell short, as they could only muster 126 for eight from their 20 overs. Zach Thomas made 28, and Robin Bascus Jr. got 18.

Kennedy Tonge had two for 11, Denfield Weatherhead claimed two for 22, and Veston Lewis captured two for 25.

Lil Lincs Supermarket ABDF Warriors claimed a three-wicket win against Sisserou, which scored 104 for seven off their 20 overs after winning the toss and opting to bat.

Sylvester Scotland struck 25, while Malique Gerald snapped up four for 14, and Troy Lake snatched two for 12.

The ABDF Warriors then clinched victory by scoring 105 for seven with three overs to spare. Edwin Jackson cracked 36 not out, Vaughn Charles struck 17,



*Malique Gerald captured four wickets to help the ABDF Warriors to a three-wicket win against Sisserou in the Antigua and Barbuda Softball Cricket Association's Men's T20 Competition. (File photo)*

and Jeff Lawrence chipped in with 16. Isaiah Viville captured four for 20.

There was success as well for Marco Inc./Grill Box Buckley's 3J's as they cruised to a nine-wicket victory against the Bryson's Shipping & Insurance Bullets.

The Bullets were dismissed for just 78 runs in 11 overs after winning the toss and opting to bat. Ken-

roy Simon hit 23, and Bernel Peterson got 17.

Alfred Jarvis picked up three for 17, Wendell Burton captured two for 16, and Rodney Williams had two for 20.

Denley Thomas slammed 40, and Ashfield Weatherhead struck 23 as Buckley's 3J's raced to victory at 79 for one in just 9.5 overs.

There were also wins

for Bryson's Shipping & Insurance Bullets and Sagicor Life Enforcers in the ABSCA's Female T20 Competition.

Bullets crushed Foster Jonas and Harley's Maintenance Potters Uprising by 69 runs. The Bullets won the toss and batted, making 138 for nine off their 20 overs.

Cheryl Williams hammered 51, hitting four fours and four sixes; Anette Frank made 17, and Althea Gage chipped in with 16. Danica Carlton captured two for 25.

The Potters Uprising were then restricted to 69 for six off their 20 overs. Sharon Mayers hit an unbeaten 15 and Tawana John struck 11 not out. Frank claimed two for 15, and Williams took two for 17.

The Enforcers trounced the Flyers by 47 runs. The Enforcers made 123 for eight. Loukehl Pelle smashed 35, Gaynell O'Garro scored 17, and Enrika Matthew got 15. Coller Simon bagged four for 24, and Valencia Thomas picked up two for 41.

The Flyers then tumbled to 76 all out in 18.1 overs. Sevely Ireland made 17, and Makada Samuel scored 10. Sherilyn Watkins took three for 12, O'Garro had two for 11, and Pelle claimed two for 13.



*The four-member contingent of the Antigua and Barbuda Table Tennis Association that is currently attending a training course in China. (Photo courtesy the ABTTA)*

## Antiguan table tennis players attend training course in China

A four-member contingent of the Antigua and Barbuda Table Tennis Association (ABTTA) is currently attending a training course in China.

The Antiguan delegation comprises some of the nation's most dedicated and promising players, including Joel Browne.

Browne is joined by aspiring athletes Barrington League and Mekhi Simmons, along with Tritia George, a Physical Education teacher from Jennings Secondary School, at the training course that is taking place from July 5th to 20th.

George is participating in the programme as a Trainee Coach and Chapereone.

The four-member contingent will be involved in the 20-day intensive

training course, which is designed to elevate the skill level of both athletes and coaches in the sport of table tennis.

The training course will provide the athletes and coaching staff with an unparalleled opportunity to deepen their technical knowledge, refine their playing strategies, and gain valuable international exposure.

According to a release from the national table tennis association, "This endeavour aligns perfectly with the ABTTA's ongoing mission to rebuild and re-energize table tennis in Antigua and Barbuda.

"We believe the lessons and experiences from this training will empower our contingent to inspire a new generation of table tennis enthusiasts and

further enrich the sport locally.

"We are profoundly grateful to our sponsors for making this trip possible. Our heartfelt thanks go to the Zhejiang Province Free Trade Development Board through the local Embassy of The People's Republic of China.

"This initiative would not have been feasible without their generous support and shared vision for developing table tennis in Antigua and Barbuda and other developing countries.

"The ABTTA takes this moment to wish our delegation great success in this exciting new chapter of their table tennis journey. We eagerly anticipate the insights and advancements they will bring back home, contributing significantly to our national efforts in the sport."