

PM BROWNE TOURS BARBUDA AIRPORT

Story on Page 2



The family of the late James Tanny Rose at Friday night's candlelight vigil held in his honour at the ABLP headquarters The People's Place on Nugent Avenue. *Story on page 4.*



PM Browne and party toured new airport facilities in Barbuda

The new airport development in Barbuda is at the centre of much international scrutiny and discussion because of a case now before the Privy Council in the United Kingdom, however, while that is taking place Prime Minister Gaston Browne led a party, that spent several hours touring the new facilities

on the island on Friday.

PM Browne was joined by Barbuda Affairs Minister, E.P. Chet Greene and Works Minister, Maria Browne, during the brief visit to Barbuda, where they had a first-hand look at the new runway and the FBO Building that will form part of the facilities at the new airport.

The prime minister said he is pleased with the work that has been done on Barbuda and it represents real development for the island. Soon, he noted, the island will be able to accommodate jet aircraft with plans to extend the runway even further, to allow for direct flights from Miami and other international airports directly to Codrington.

According to PM Browne, and contrary to some of the ‘misinformation’ that has been circulating in the international media, the construction of the new airport followed all the requirements of the law pertaining to environmental impact studies, etc.

Speaking on the Browne and Browne show on Saturday, the prime minister referenced statements he made back in March 2017 at the groundbreaking for the new airport, when he announced that the monies for the development of the airport had been secured.

He said work started

soon after, even before the destruction caused by Hurricane Irma. According to PM Browne, the company doing the airport was paid, so one month or so after the passage of the hurricane, work resumed on the airport.

He defended the actions of his government on the issue of the resumption of the work back in 2017, noting that the monies were already paid to the construction firm and they had to deliver based on the contract.

This fact, he explained, has now been twisted to indicate that the people of Barbuda were removed from the island, to allow for the development work on the airport to continue.

“While, I have been doing my best for the people of Barbuda, and while I was genuinely concerned about their safety with the threat of another hurricane, they are now accusing me of wanting to steal their lands; what utter rubbish,” he stated emphatically.

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A BOTTLE LICENCE FOR BUSINESS REGISTERED AS JLS RESTAURANT

I, Georg Nadour, DO HEREBY GIVE NOTICE, that it is my intention to apply at the next sitting of the Liquor Licence Court to be held at the Magistrate's Court, Grays Farm, St. John's Antigua on Thursday 30th November, 2023 next ensuing for a Bottle license in respect of premises known as "JLS Restaurant" situated Liberta Village in the Parish of St. Paul's Antigua pursuant to Section 11 (3) of the Licensing (Intoxicating Liquor) Act Cap 249 of the Laws of Antigua and Barbuda, Revised Edition 1992.

Dated the 2nd day of November, 2023

Georg Nadour
Georg Nadour
268-771-3844

Lead attorney provides clarity on the case before the Privy Council

The case brought before the Privy Council by two residents of Barbuda – John Mussington and Ms. Frank – will not determine whether or not the government acted properly in proceeding with the development of the new airport in Barbuda.

That is according to the lead attorney for the government, Dr. David Dorsett, who has provided some clarity about the nature of the case, which he described as ‘a case like no other,’ with which he has been involved.

For one thing, he noted that the case has attracted much international media and interest, to the extent that these cases are normally held in Courtroom #3 at the Privy Council, but due to the media interests, it was moved to Courtroom #1, the largest at the Privy Council.

Despite all the attention, Dr. Dorsett explains that the Privy Council

will not render a judgment on whether or not the government or its agencies acted properly by giving permission for the construction of the airport, now virtually completed.

Instead, he further explained, the ruling has been narrowed to whether or not the litigants, Mussington or Frank have standing to bring the matter to the court.

He noted that the case has been thrown out before the High Court and the Eastern Caribbean Appeals Court.

“The Privy Council is making a decision, an important decision, on whether or not the two Barbuda residents have standing or the legal capacity to bring a claim challenging what has been done by the Development Control Authority (DCA) and principally, the Airport Authority in granting permission and being the major movers behind the new airport

in Barbuda,” he revealed.

He noted that issues such as the granting of permission, whether or not there was any environmental study, or whether or not the airport, already built, should be ripped up.

“The Privy Council is not making any decision on whether or not any of the buildings associated with the airport should be torn down,” he emphasized.

Dr. Dorsett further explained that if the Privy Council rules that the two litigants have ‘standing’ then the case begins ‘at square one.’

The attorney said interest in the case may have come from a feeling among some members of the press that the people on a small island were fighting to protect their environment, however, he said this is not what the Privy Council will render its judgment.



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James Tanny Rose's contributions to be remembered in 'a permanent way'

The government is mulling over an appropriate way in which to honour the memory and contributions of the late, James Tanny Rose.

This is as senior executives and members of the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party gathered at the Party's headquarters on Friday evening for a candlelight vigil for Rose, who died over a week ago.

Prime Minister Gaston Browne told the gathering that Rose was unparalleled in his advocacy and social activism and that he did so with a strong sense of commitment to the ordinary



men and women of the society.

He said Rose was very well informed and had a unique ability to analyse even the most complex issues and to effectively communicate these to members

of the society in a way that everyone was able to understand.

He added that Rose did this without the benefit of tertiary-level education which made his contributions even more remark-

able.

"We have lost a great talent in Comrade Tanny Rose; he has left a void, and I am calling on the younger members of the party to 'step up to the plate,' as this void needs to be filled. We need comrades who will examine the landscape for issues of interest; analyse the issues and communicate with members of the society," he urged.

Health Minister Sir Molwyn Joseph described Rose as 'perhaps the best social commentator' the country has ever seen.

"Tanny was no ordinary
cont'd on pg 5



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cont'd from pg 4

person; in my lifetime, I have never met a single individual with a greater memory and an ability to dissect any argument presented to him,” he stated.

In a tribute to Rose, Samantha Marshall, who spoke on behalf of the ‘Women of Labour’ recalled that when Rose was arrested by the UPP government, it was the ‘Women of Labour’ who stood outside the Police Headquarters on American Road in an all-night vigil until he was released the following day.

She recalled too that his release triggered an impromptu motorcade through St. John’s. This she noted was the high esteem in which Rose was regarded by the membership of the ABLP.

Former Junior Finance Minister Lennox Weston with whom Rose worked on several radio programmes, explained that in 2004 the ABLP had lost the support of many, including those who would help to finance the political campaigns.

“It was in that context when there was no hope of benefits, that Tanny Rose was transformed from the normal community worker, from the normal guru for VC Bird into an anointed soldier of Labour,” Weston declared.

Following the reflections from several others including Party Chairman, E.P. Chet Greene, who chaired the event, and the senior leaders, a Book of Condolences in honour of James Tanny Rose was signed. The signing was led by Prime Minister Browne.

Among those in attendance were members of his family and Dame Bridget Harris, an ardent listener, whenever Rose appeared on the various radio broadcast programmes.



ABICE to launch intense vocational skills training

The Cabinet has given the “green light” for the launch of a special skills training programme at the Harrison Centre/Antigua and Barbuda Institute for Continuing Education (ABICE) to address the shortage of skilled labour in the country.

Several senior government sources say the shortage of skilled labour is a real issue with which it has to contend, and the training being offered at ABICE in skills such as carpentry and masonry is one way to address the shortage.

Some two hundred young people are now being invited to apply for the training which is expected to last for an estimated 16 weeks.

“Those who are interested will

only be required to pay a nominal fee of \$20.00 for the training. During the period of training, the trainees will receive a small stipend,” according to one government spokesman.

The spokesman said the skills shortage is so severe that if the government does not act immediately to upskill its people, this could have a negative impact on planned developments in the New Year, when several hotel projects are on the drawing books to start, as well as the expansion of the University of the West Indies Five Islands Campus.

“We have run out of skilled labour; we need carpenters, masons as well as those skilled in the areas of electrical and plumbing.

“We are prepared to pay the stipend to train them to meet our needs. As it stands now, we have several luxury properties to come on stream.

“There is a luxury property to be announced soon for Barbuda and a group out of the United Arab Emirates to develop the former Half Moon Bay property, but we don’t have any labour and that’s a problem.

“This is in addition to the 200-million dollar expansion of the UWI FIC,” Prime Minister Gaston Browne stated.

Against this background, he said the decision is to train as many people as possible, as soon as possible, to help meet the skilled labour requirements.

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KEEP A TABLE

The Education Minister continues to look for more benefits for the country

The Minister of Education, Daryll Matthew, who is currently on an overseas mission, has been using every opportunity to secure benefits for the further development of Antigua and Barbuda.

Minister Matthew is in the United Kingdom, and he has participated in a series of meetings organised by the High Commission with various educational and sporting institutions. “The engagements sought to advance opportunities for Antigua and Barbuda following the under-19 cricket team’s inaugural summer tour of the UK. The sporting institutions visited, were directly involved in



the cricket team’s tour and expressed interest in developing a deeper relationship with Antigua and Barbuda,” according to a media release from the mission.

Minister Matthew, ac-

companied by High Commissioner Karen-Mae Hill, met with two of the United Kingdom’s most outstanding educational and sporting institutions. At the Harrow School, meetings were

held with Johnny Marsden, Mathematics Master and Master in Charge of Cricket, and Natalya Silcott, Mathematics Master and Awards Registrar. The Har-

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Local News



cont'd from pg 7

row School has proposed two funded placements for young Antiguan and Barbudan cricketers to spend a term at the school from April to June 2024.

“The selected cricketers (one aged 13 and the other aged 14) will be immersed in academic studies while training and playing cricket with the Harrow School Cricket Club. Harrow is one of the UK’s most prestigious schools renowned for its first-class sports programmes and academic rigour. It has educated several Nobel prize laureates including Sir Winston Churchill. The selection process will be led by Sen-

ator Shenella Govia and supported by the Harrow School,” the release stated.

The second meeting was held with Director of Sport Richard Wheater and Senior Performance Programme Manager at Loughborough University.

Loughborough University is ranked in the top 10 of UK universities. It is recognised as the best university in the UK for sports. Minister Matthew explored opportunities for elite athletes from Antigua and Barbuda to secure scholarships to the University.

He also discussed the possibility of developing bespoke training programmes initially for football and

cricket coaches employed by the Ministry of Sport to further develop their technical capacity. The meeting also discussed a planned cricket tour to Antigua and Barbuda in March 2024 of a Loughborough University cricket team. The Antigua and Barbuda under 19 team spent a week at the University in August and played their first fixture against a Loughborough University XI.

Meetings were also held with Hertfordshire County Cricket Club (HCCC) and the ACE Programme.

In a shift away from sports, the Minister met with the founders of Caribbean Elective, Sergio Fedee

and Harry Spear. Caribbean Elective is a non-profit organisation that provides UK college and university students with UK government-funded internship opportunities around the world.

Since its launch in 2016, over 3000 UK students have travelled to St. Lucia, where they participated in several programmes on the island including working in the local hospitals and with the Legal Aid Department. Antigua and Barbuda will be the second and newest Caribbean country added to the Caribbean Elective programme. The first students will visit the island in February 2024.

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Salvation Army launches Christmas Kettle 2023

The annual launch of the Christmas Kettle drive by the Salvation Army is now underway with members of the church posted at popular supermarkets, collecting donations from members of the Public.

Head of the Antigua and Barbuda branch of the Salvation Army, District Officer Major Raymoncil Pierre said the church has set a target of raising one hundred and seventy thousand dollars (\$170,000.00) this year. Last year, a target of \$160,000.00 was set and the actual collection passed this amount to reach \$205,000.00.

He said the monies raised go towards those members of society who require assistance, as the



CIBC FCIA Donates \$5000.00 to Salvation Army

Salvation Army takes much interest in the affairs of the less fortunate amongst us.

Already, a major step has been made in reaching

the target with a donation of \$5,000.00 from CIBC First Caribbean Bank.

Branch Manager Dawn Soleyn presented the cheque

on behalf of the Bank and issued a challenge to the population, for each member of every family to donate \$5 or the total, to the number of members in the family eg 5 members equals \$25, and give the contribution to the Salvation Army. "This will go a long way in helping the less fortunate in our communities as blessings will be received," she noted.

The launch of the 2023 Salvation Army Christmas kettle took place last Friday with the participation of Board members, including Senator Shawn Nicholas and Secretary, Valerie Gonsalves-Barreiro in attendance.

The theme this year is: Support the cause and keep hope alive.



Major Raymoncil Pierre of the Salvation Army

Senator Rawdon Turner supports cleanup campaign in Paynters

By **Brendon Jones**

In a remarkable display of community spirit and collaboration, led by the St. Peter District Disaster Response Team, Senator Rawdon Turner, supported a highly successful clean-up campaign in the Paynters East Community.

The initiative aimed to enhance the environment and uplift community spirits, showcasing the power of collective effort.

Sen. Turner expressed gratitude for the opportunity to be part of this impactful endeavor, stating, “Grateful for the opportunity to join the St. Peter District Disaster Response Team in organizing a clean-up campaign for the Paynters East community.”

Turner emphasized the importance of such initiatives in fostering positive change within the community.

He also expressed his gratitude to the National Solid Waste Management Authority, Antigua Defense Force, other donors, and the St. Peter District Disaster Response Team for making this Initiative possible.

Their support played a crucial role in ensuring the efficiency and effectiveness of the cleanup operation.

This collaboration exemplifies the impact that can be achieved when local organizations and government entities come together for a common cause.

The Community Cleanup initiative not only cleared the area of debris and waste but also served as a symbol of



unity and resilience.

The St. Peter community stood strong, demonstrating the power of collective action when individuals join forces for the betterment of their surroundings.

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Key Areas of Responsibility

- Ensure coordination and implementation of digital operations and broadcast logistics and related operational requirements.
- Ensure that all ICC staff and support personnel have the required accreditation and access to stadium.

Professional experience & Skills Required:

- Diploma or equivalent certification in relevant discipline – Media and Broadcast, business, event management, project management.
- At least 5 years' experience in a lead broadcast, media or project role, and success in delivering regional and international events.

Local Operations Officer

Key Areas of Responsibility

- Manage all venue specific tournament operations and ensure they are delivered to ICC and World Class standards.
- Ensure catering and distribution plans and schedules for match and practice venues are established and communicated with stakeholders and service providers.

Professional experience & Skills Required:

- Diploma or equivalent professional certification in relevant discipline – business administration, management, event management, project management, sports management or related field.
- Minimum 5 years' work experience in a lead cricket, sports or related field.

Local Logistics Officer

Key Areas of Responsibility

- Assist with the planning, coordination, management and delivery of all air transportation, ground transportation, accommodation, freight and shipping services, territorial customs and immigration clearances.
- Liaise with government agencies and other stakeholders to collaborate on host venue logistics and operations plans.
- Coordinate and conduct physical inspections of local hotels, vehicles and other logistics services.

Professional experience & Skills Required:

- Diploma or equivalent professional certification in relevant discipline – logistics, business administration, project management, sports management or related field.
- Minimum 4 years' working experience in logistical operations and procedures for elite sport tournaments.

Local Venue Officer

Key Areas of Responsibility

- Ensure all regional host venues are prepared according to the world cup standards.
- Devise territorial venue budgets and cost estimates, aligning with ICC standards.
- Coordinate venue inspections with relevant agencies to obtain necessary Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) certifications.

Professional experience & Skills Required:

- Diploma or equivalent professional certification in relevant discipline – engineering, project management or related field.
- At least 5 years' experience in a related field.

Cricket Operations Officer

Key Areas of Responsibility

- Prepare practice schedules ensuring that all operational arrangements are in place.
- Prepare cricket operations plan for host country.
- Ensure all team and match official requirements are delivered.
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Iceland volcano: Emergency declared over volcano Fagradalsfjall eruption concerns

By Adam Durbin

The chance of a volcanic eruption in Iceland is rising, posing a threat to a now-evacuated town, experts say.

Iceland has declared a state of emergency after a series of earthquakes.

Authorities have ordered thousands of people living in the southwestern town of Grindavík to leave as a precaution.

The Icelandic Meteorological Office (IMO) said there was a considerable risk of an eruption.

The probability of an eruption on or just off the Reykjanes peninsula has increased since the morning, IMO says.

An eruption could start at any time in the next few days, according to the statement.

Thor Thordason, professor of volcanology at the University of Iceland, said a 15km-long (nine mile) river of magma running under the peninsula was still active.

“That’s why we’re talking about an imminent eruption unfortunately. The most likely eruption side appears to be within the boundary of the town of Grindavík,” he told the BBC.

Thousands of tremors have been recorded around the nearby Fagradalsfjall volcano in recent weeks.

They have been concen-



Earth tremors have caused the ground to slip at this golf course and elsewhere in Grindavík.

trated in Iceland’s Reykjanes Peninsula, which had remained dormant to volcanic activity for 800 years before a 2021 eruption.

In a statement on Saturday the agency said a tunnel of magma, or molten rock, that extends northeast across Grindavík and some 10km further inland, was estimated at a depth of less than 800 metres, compared with 1,500 metres earlier in the day.

On Thursday, the increased seismic activity in the area prompted the closure of the nearby Blue Lagoon landmark.

More than 20,000 tremors have been recorded in southwest Iceland since late October.

Iceland’s Civil Protection Agency said the decision to evacuate came af-

ter the IMO could not rule out a “magma tunnel that is currently forming could reach Grindavík”.

And on Friday, the agency said people must leave the town, but also emphasised it was not an “emergency evacuation” - calling on them to “remain calm, because we have a good amount of time to react”.

“There is no immediate danger imminent, the evacuation is primarily preventive with the safety of all Grindavík residents as the principal aim,” it added.

All roads into the town of around 4,000 people are closed other than for emergencies, to ensure traffic can get in and out.

Alda Sigmundsdottir, a journalist in Reykjavík, said that people were going

back into the town “to get their absolute bare necessities” and pets.

“We are just currently waiting for the eruption to start,” she told the BBC’s Newshour.

Iceland is one of the most geologically active regions in the world, with around 30 active volcanic sites.

Volcanic eruptions occur when magma, which is lighter than the solid rock around it, rises to the earth’s surface from deep below it.

In July, Litli-Hrutur, or Little Ram, erupted in the Fagradalsfjall area, drawing tourists to the site of the “world’s newest baby volcano”.

The site was dormant for eight centuries until eruptions in 2021, 2022 and 2023.

This, that and your mother

By Tony Deyal

First there is “this”. The English philosopher, John Hobbes, said that there are moments which mark your life when you realise nothing will ever be the same and time is divided into two parts, before this and after this. Then there is “that” which usually comes after “this”.

Generally, “this” is near and “that” is far. “This” is here and “that” is there. “This” is good and “that” is bad. “This” is me and “that” is she. In fact, as an English teacher, trying to get my students to know “that” English can be fun, I made them try making sense of this: that that is that that is that that is not is that that is not that that is is not that that is not that that is not is not that that is that that is is that that is not is not. (The answer is at the end of this column). In addition to “this” and “that” in most countries of the world, and in almost every language spoken or written, “this” and “that” are followed by the “other thing” or just “the other”.

However, in many of the same countries, especially the Caribbean, “This, that and the other” give way to “This, that and your mother.”

The “mama” or “mother” jokes go back to Babylon in 3500 BC where the first one was found inscribed on a tablet. Based on what was left, it was clearly a joke about a man’s mother because when translated into English it read, “...of your mother is by the one who has

intercourse with her. What or who is it?” While these jokes are almost everywhere now, one of the best known from the early days came in Shakespeare’s play, Titus Andronicus. “Demetrius: Villain, what hast thou done?/ Aaron: That which thou canst not undo./ Chiron: Thou hast undone our mother./ Aaron: Villain, I have done thy mother.” Since then, the US took it over and “Your Mama” (or yo mama) jokes became very popular and, like what happened to us as schoolboys and still continues, is what we call “fight” and “licks”, if not from the other person but from our teachers. The Irish principal and teachers in the school I went to could not understand why “cussing your mother” was such a big deal especially since all women had the same body-part and it was not like the mothers were there at the school when the statement was made.

These jokes are tough. Here are some examples that would have cost us our lives or our schooling. “You mama so fat when she tried to weigh herself the scales said, ‘One at a time please’; “Your mama’s so fat and old that when God said ‘Let there be light’ he was just asking her to move out of the way.”; “Your mama’s so stupid when they said ‘Order in court’ she asked for fries and a shake.”; “Your momma’s so ugly when she was born the doctor slapped her parents.”; “Your mama so poor she can’t even pay attention.”; “Your mama so ugly



Tony Deyal

that her portraits hang themselves.”; and “Your mama so dumb she went to the movies, and it said ‘Under 17 not admitted’ so she went home and got 16 of her friends.”

The fact is that we all love and care very much for our mothers. In Greek mythology, Gaia or Mother Earth, was the first goddess. Worldwide there are over two billion mothers with approximately four being born every second. In other words, the average mother will have changed 7,300 diapers by the time her baby is two years old. The first sound a baby vocalises is the “ma” sound. This is why in almost every language, the word for mother starts with “M” or some version of the “ma” sound. The foetal heart races faster when hearing its mother’s voice. A mother’s voice also eases older children’s stress just as much as

a real-life hug. The sound of mom’s voice lowers a child’s stress hormone, cortisol, and raises their level of oxytocin, a hormone linked with love and bonding. Approximately 122 million calls are made on the second Sunday of May, and Mother’s Day is the busiest day of the year for restaurants. Interestingly, I got all this from “HABA”, the “holiday shop” which claims that “everything it does is based on child’s growth ... and everything they create is designed to make a child’s eyes light up...”

I suppose this is why some mothers don’t always feel special. One mother said, “Being a mother of a teenager is finally understanding why some animals eat their young.” Another complained, “There’s nothing quite like being told I’m wrong by

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Suriname reports suspected case of human trafficking

CMC - The Surinamese authorities have launched a Blue Alert nationally and internationally about the disappearance of a group of Pakistani nationals who arrived there some time ago.

As a result, surrounding countries have been asked to look out for the Pakistanis, in a case that is being treated as a possible case of human trafficking.

The police report that the 15 men in question entered the country legally, but did not register at one of the official border posts to leave the country on the day they were supposed to do so. Since then there has been no trace of them.

It is widely believed that these men left Suriname illegally for Guyana.

"A group of Pakistanis



recently travelled to Suriname. However, their residence permit has already expired and the group has not been stamped at the formal border posts. This means that the passport of this group of Pakistanis does not contain a stamp indicating that the group has left Suriname," said the Information Anonymous Reporting Center (MIA).

In this context, the MIA Blue Alert Pakistani Edition

was launched to locate the men ranging in age from 20 to 40 years.

A Blue Alert is an international code that is applied when information is sought about a suspect. The Blue Alert- Pakistan Edition has been launched due to the increasing illegal cases, the reporting centre said.

"This worrying trend requires urgent attention from both government agencies and the public," MIA con-

tinued.

The uncontrolled stay of this group of Pakistanis, according to the hotline, could pose potential security risks, given the challenges and the need to tighten security checks, MIA says. This could endanger national security and make it more difficult for authorities to identify and address potential threats.

Roy Samuels, commander of the Military Police, told local news website Starnieuws that this issue is murky.

According to him, this leans towards human trafficking and that is why the international partners have been informed. Samuels emphasizes that the group has registered legally in Su-

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someone who depends on me for food, clothier and shelter." What is worse is when one of your daughters shows they are way ahead of you in some things. A mother who saw her little daughter playing with Barbie and GI Joe. Perplexed she said, "I thought Barbie came with Ken?" The youngster replied, "No mom. Barbie comes with GI Joe. She only fakes it with Ken." This is why one of my friends asked me, "Why is a computer so smart?" and then replied "Because it listens to its motherboard". I told him this story about motherboards and some of the problems they have. The worst of all was the complaint by one mother whose young daughter, Maria, came home one evening boasting that she had earned twenty dollars by

climbing a tree. The mother tried to let her daughter know why that happened and explained to her, "Maria, they just wanted to see your panties." Maria replied, "Mom. I am smarter than that. I took them off!"

However, despite knowing that our mothers try really hard to make us the best we can be and we love them very much for all they have done for us, this does not stop the jokes, even on Mother's Day. One man quipped, "This Mother's Day my dad got a new car for my mom. He said it was the best trade he's ever made." Or the response of the police recruit who got this exam question, "What would you do if you had to arrest your own mother?" He said, "Call for back-up." A friend asked me, "What's the difference between a Rottweiler and a Ca-

ribbean mother?" Then he quickly gave me the answer, "Eventually a Rottweiler will let go." In a way that is true but the bite springs from love. Like the little boy who asked his mother for twenty dollars. She replied, "Does it look like I'm made of money?" He answered with a smile, "Well isn't that what M-O-M stands for?" He got the twenty without another word from his mom. Unlike his sister who asked, "Mom, what's it like to have the greatest daughter in the world?" Her mom replied, "I don't know dear. Ask your grandma."

Tony Deyal was last seen teaching, "That that is, is that that is. That that is not, is that that is not. That that is, is not that that is not. That, that is not, is not that that is. That that is, is. That, that is not, is not."

Jamaican national jailed for role in fraudulent sweepstakes scheme

CMC – A 41-year-old Jamaican national has been sentenced to 16 years in jail for his role in a fraudulent sweepstakes scheme that targeted elderly victims in the United States.

The United States Department of Justice (DOJ) says Damone Oakley pleaded guilty in July 2023 to two counts of mail and two counts of wire fraud. Oakley of St James Parish, Jamaica, had been extradited to the United States in 2022.

The DOJ said that from at least 2010 through 2019, Oakley participated in a fraudulent sweepstakes scheme that targeted elderly and vulnerable victims.

It said his victims received mailings, text messages or phone calls in which they were falsely told that they had won millions of dollars and luxury vehicles in a sweepstakes, but first needed to pay taxes and fees in order to claim their winnings.

The DOJ said Oakley used phony names during the scheme, including “Offi-

cer Alex Logan” and “Officer Stan Valentine,” and instructed his victims on how to send their money, and to whom the funds should be sent.

His victims were located throughout the United States, and used wire transfers, direct bank deposits, the US Postal Service and private commercial mail carriers to send money directly to Oakley as well as to individuals in the United States and elsewhere who served as intermediaries and transmitted the money to Oakley, the DOJ said.

In addition to sending cash or wire transfers, it said Oakley’s victims were directed to purchase electronics, jewelry and clothing, which were sent to mail forwarding services in Florida, and then on to Oakley in Jamaica.

The victims never received any “winnings,” said the DOJ, adding that Oakley’s victims lost hundreds of thousands of dollars during the course of the scheme.



“The Justice Department’s Consumer Protection Branch and its law enforcement partners will vigorously pursue individuals who prey on vulnerable and elderly victims through fraudulent schemes,” said Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Brian M. Boynton, head of the Justice Department’s Civil Division.

“Through our National Elder Fraud Hotline, we identify perpetrators of these schemes and prioritize the pursuit of those who deliberately target vulnerable consumers, who often can least afford to sustain financial losses.”

US Attorney Gerard M. Karam said “this sentence reflects our office’s commitment to protecting the most vulnerable members of our society and punishing those who engage in this type of behavior.

“Working together with our skilled and dedicated law enforcement partners, Oakley was held accountable for his crimes,” he added.

Inspector in Charge Eric Shen, of the US Postal Inspection Services (USPIS) Criminal Investigations Group, said “there was a time when scammers operating beyond our borders felt they could operate with impunity. Those days are gone.

“Postal inspectors track down these scammers no matter where they are. And with our Department of Justice partners’ extradition powers, scammers are brought to the United States to face the music. In this case, it’s to the tune of 192 months in prison.”

cont’d from pg 14

riname.

“The immigration department has done a good job of screening,” the MP commander said. However, he finds it strange that the group did not register at the international airport or another official border crossing before leaving Suriname. The Pakistanis are nowhere to be found in the country.

The senior officer indicates that in

most cases Suriname is used as a hub for, among other things, human trafficking. Due to the geographical location of the country, various things are transported via Suriname to the rest of the world. Several months ago, there was also concern about cases of suspected human trafficking or smuggling – in one case, large groups of people from India arrived from the Netherlands, but afterward, they too disappeared without leaving the country.

London protests: Seven charged and 145 arrested as police appeals continue

Seven men have been charged over disorder on Armistice Day for offences including inciting racial hatred.

The Met Police said 145 people were arrested - the "vast majority" of whom were counter-protesters - and nine officers were injured on Saturday.

It condemned violence from right-wing counter-protesters who it says set out to confront the pro-Palestinian march.

Investigations into other offences - including antisemitic hate crimes - continue, police said.

The pro-Palestinian demonstration - which coincided with Armistice Day - saw some 300,000 people march through central London calling for a Gaza ceasefire.

It was the biggest UK rally since the war between Israel and Hamas began on 7 October.

Police added while the march itself did not see such physical violence, other serious offences were being investigated.

The seven men, aged between 23 and 75, have been charged over offences including possession of weapons, public order, possession of drugs and assault on an emergency worker.

Two of those charged live in London, with the others coming from across the UK, including Norfolk, Flintshire, Kent, Manches-



ter and West Lothian.

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said those involved in crimes must face the full force of the law, with the "despicable actions of a minority of people" undermining "those who have chosen to express their views peacefully".

He added that "EDL [English Defence League] thugs attacking police and trespassing on the Cenotaph" war memorial had disrespected the honour of the UK's armed forces.

On Saturday, the Met's Assistant Commissioner Matt Twist said the violence directed towards officers was "extraordinary and deeply concerning", with nine injured after counter-protesters clashed with police.

"They arrived early, stating they were there to protect monuments, but some were already intoxicated, aggressive and clearly looking for confrontation," he said.

Home Secretary Suella Braverman said on Sunday

it was "an outrage" that several officers had been injured, thanking them for "their professionalism in the face of violence and aggression from protesters and counter-protesters".

She is currently under pressure after criticising police ahead of the march, claiming they were biased for letting it go ahead. There have been calls for her to be sacked, with some ministers distancing themselves from her comments.

Mr Twist said the pro-Palestinian march "did not see the sort of physical violence carried out by the right wing", but "a number of serious offences identified in relation to hate crime and possible support for proscribed organisations" during the protest were being investigated.

Police issued five photos of six individuals suspected of hate crimes.

Deputy Assistant Commissioner Laurence Taylor, who led Saturday's policing operation, said: "We

urge anyone who has information about the identity of suspects, or who has footage or photos of further potential offences, to get in touch so we can take the appropriate action."

The force has issued an appeal for information regarding videos filmed in Waterloo and Victoria stations showing "unacceptable abuse including antisemitic language, as well as threatening behaviour".

Footage shared on social media showed Michael Gove ushered through London's Victoria Station by police officers, as crowds waving Palestinian flags shouted: "Shame on you."

On Sunday, the Levelling Up Secretary addressed the incident on X, formerly Twitter, thanking police for their "exemplary work in getting me home safely yesterday".

On the pro-Palestinian march, chants of "free Palestine" and "ceasefire now" could be heard as crowds began marching from London's Hyde Park.

At one point the march, organised by the Palestine Solidarity Campaign, extended from the Hilton Hotel in Park Lane to the US Embassy in Nine Elms - a distance of roughly 2.5 miles.

The Remembrance Sunday service at the Cenotaph, led by the King, passed without incident.

Israel's president denies it is striking Gaza's Al-Shifa hospital

Israeli President Isaac Herzog has denied that Israel is striking Gaza's largest hospital.

Reports from staff at Al-Shifa suggest the facility, sheltering thousands of Palestinians, has run out of electricity.

But Mr Herzog said "everything is operating" at the hospital.

Speaking to the BBC's Laura Kuenssberg he also said a copy of Adolf Hitler's *Mein Kampf* was found on the body of a Hamas fighter in northern Gaza.

Mr Herzog said a copy translated into Arabic was found "just a few days ago" in a children's room that had been "turned into a military operation base of Hamas".

The Nazi leader's antisemitic manifesto was first printed in 1925.

Finding a copy of it in northern Gaza, Mr Herzog said, showed that some in Hamas "learned again and again Adolf Hitler's ideology of hating the Jews".

Earlier, the World Health Organization (WHO) said it had lost communication with its contacts at Al-Shifa, with staff and patients trapped by fighting outside.

WHO chief Dr Tedros Ghebreyesus later said that contact has been restored but warned of "dire" conditions inside. He repeated calls for a ceasefire and said the hospital has been without electricity and water for three days.

Doctors and the Hamas-run health ministry in Gaza have said a lack of fuel there means patients cannot be operated on and incubators for premature babies cannot run. But the president disputed this.

"We deny this at all, there is a lot of spin by Hamas... but there's electricity in Shifa, everything is operating," Mr



Herzog said.

Israel has said that Hamas has a base underneath the hospital building - a claim denied by Hamas.

Surgeon Marwan Abu Saada told the BBC on Saturday that the hospital had run out of water, food and electricity.

He said the sounds of shooting and bombardments echoed through the hospital "every second".

Israeli military spokesman Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari said Israel would help evacuate babies from Al-Shifa following a request from the hospital administration. A doctors group said on Saturday that two premature babies had already died.

Asked about growing calls for a ceasefire, including from France's President Macron, Mr Herzog asserted Israel's right to defend itself after the attacks of 7 October.

"We of course listen to our allies, but first and foremost, we defend ourselves," he said.

He acknowledged that there had been civilian deaths in Gaza but blamed Hamas for many of the trag-

edies.

Mr Herzog said his country's operations in Gaza were carried out "according to the rules of international humanitarian law", with Israel alerting civilians with phone calls and text messages, and urging them to evacuate from northern Gaza and "go down [to southern Gaza]".

"We give them humanitarian pauses so that they can go down [south]," Mr Herzog said.

More than 11,000 people have been killed in Gaza since the start of the war, according to the Hamas-run health ministry. More than 1.5m people are also displaced, according to the United Nations' agency for Palestinian refugees (Unrwa).

Israel launched an offensive in the Gaza Strip following Hamas's deadly 7 October attack, which killed 1,200 people and saw more than 200 others taken hostage from southern Israel.

Fighting has been fierce in the northern part of the 41km (25 miles) long and 10km wide enclave, but blasts have also hit the southern cities of Rafah and Khan Younis.

England name new-look squads for West Indies

Less than 12 hours after exiting the World Cup, England named new-look squads for next month's white-ball tour of the West Indies with an emphasis on rest, rotation, and renewal.

The limited-overs trip to the Caribbean, coming straight off the back of a gruelling six-week trawl of India, had already been highlighted as a time to look at fresh faces, but the ODI party contains only six survivors from the unimpressive title defence.

Captain Jos Buttler remains in charge and is joined by Gus Atkinson, Harry Brook, Brydon Carse, Sam Curran, and Liam Livingstone.

Jonny Bairstow, Joe Root and Mark Wood have been rested ahead of Janu-



England named new-look squads for next month's white-ball tour of the West Indies (Getty Images)

ary's Test series in India and Test captain Ben Stokes is heading straight for an operation on his long-term knee injury.

But the omissions of Dawid Malan, Moeen Ali, and Chris Woakes from the 50-over squad may prove to

be more final.

Moeen and Woakes, together with Adil Rashid, are retained for the T20 leg, suggesting they still have a chance of next summer's short-form World Cup, but Malan has been cut from both formats.

Despite being England's top run-scorer over the last few weeks, finishing exactly 100 clear of his nearest challenger, at 36 he seems to have run out of road.

Three uncapped players made the cut in ODI side with Test vice-captain Ollie Pope joining seamers John Turner and Josh Tongue. The pace pair also feature in the 20-over squad.

Phil Salt, Will Jacks and Rehan Ahmed will also make the full trip, indicating they are all seen as important parts of England's white-ball rebuild.

While Ahmed was handed a two-year central contract last month, it is notable that neither Jacks nor Salt were among the 29 names who did receive deals.

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Top two teams take lead in business basketball league's playoff series

The top two teams have taken a 1-0 lead in their respective best of three semi-final series in the playoff of the Cool and Smooth Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) Business League competition.

Top seed and round-robin league champion Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board cruised past fourth-seeded Anjo Wholesale 67-49 in the opening game of the first semi-finals at the JSC Sports Complex on Saturday night.

Marlon "Buju" Charles produced 19 points, and Russell Daley scored 10 points for the Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board, and Steven Matthew

had a game-high 22 points for Anjo Wholesale.

The second-seeded Sandals snatched a hard-fought 73-68 victory in overtime against third-seeded and defending playoff champions Richie's Shooterz in the first game of the second semi-finals series.

Both teams were tied 62-62 at the end of regulation, and it was the Sandals that prevailed by a five-point margin in overtime.

Keroi Lee converted 20 points, Keaddy Martin sank 18 points, Selassie Brathwaite scored 15 points, and Kim Casey chipped in with 11 points

for the Sandals.

Point guard Tavarus Benta shot a game-high 24 points, and Kwame Brathwaite scored 16 points for Richie's Shooterz.

The Sandals had claimed the last spot in the semi-finals by snatching a 56-51 victory against 10th-seeded Eye Mobile Vision Care in the final second-round encounter.

Keroi Lee sank 15 points, and John Rolland scored 14 points for the Sandals, while Adonis Humphreys converted 14 points, and Orion Seraphine had 12 points for Eye Mobile Vision Care.



The Princess Margaret School Under-20 Boys Division football team. (File photo)

PMS maintain lead in Under-20 Boys Division

The Princess Margaret School (PMS) team maintained their position at the top of the West Zone of the Under-20 Boys Division of the Ministry of Sports Secondary Schools' Football League on Friday.

Princess Margaret School recorded their fourth win in five matches to advance to 13 points at the top of the division by snatching a 1-0 victory against Antigua State College at the PMS playing field. Jahlanie Barzey scored the only goal of the match.

Ottos Comprehensive School hammered Jennings Secondary 9-0 in another encounter in the West Zone

of the Under-20 Boys Division at the Radio Range playing field.

Two matches were played in the East Zone of the Under-20 Boys Division, and both ended in 1-1 draws.

Antoniell Campbell scored in the 10th minute to give host Irene B. Williams Secondary the lead, but Eroy Gonsalves equalized for St. Joseph's Academy in the 20th minute of their drawn encounter at the Swetes playing field.

A 12th-minute conversion by Kaif Challenger put All Saints Secondary School ahead, but Noel Jno Baptiste scored a minute lat-

er to equalize for Clare Hall Secondary School in their drawn affair at the Mack Pond playing field in All Saints.

Princess Margaret School and Jennings Secondary School both recorded wins in the Under-16 Girls Division.

Irressia Allen scored four times as Princess Margaret School hammered Clare Hall Secondary 5-0 at the PMS playing field.

Latoya Williams scored a hat-trick, and Chalecia Byers had a double conversion as Jennings Secondary School hammered All Saints Secondary School 5-0 at King George V Rec-

reational Grounds.

Princess Margaret School also kept their unbeaten record intact and took sole leadership of the Under-16 Boys Division.

Zadier Forde scored the only goal of the match to give Princess Margaret School a 1-0 victory over defending champion Antigua Grammar School at the PMS playing field.

Their third win in as many matches allowed Princess Margaret School to take hold of the top spot by advancing to nine points.

Sir Novelle Richards Academy secured their second win in three outings by snatching a 2-1 victory against St. Anthony's Secondary School at the PMS playing field.

Clare Hall Secondary and Ottos Comprehensive School played to a 2-2 draw in their Under-16 Boys Division encounter at the Radio Range playing field.

cont'd from pg 18

Malan, who appears to have played his final international, was signed up for a year.

ODI squad: Jos Buttler (captain), Rehan Ahmed, Gus Atkinson, Harry Brook, Brydon Carse, Zak Crawley, Sam Curran, Ben Duckett, Tom Hartley, Will Jacks,

Liam Livingstone, Ollie Pope, Phil Salt, Josh Tongue, and John Turner.

T20I squad: Jos Buttler (c), Rehan Ahmed, Moeen Ali, Gus Atkinson, Harry Brook, Sam Curran, Ben Duckett, Will Jacks, Liam Livingstone, Tymal Mills, Adil Rashid, Phil Salt, Josh Tongue, Reece Topley, John Turner, and Chris Woakes.

Thank you to our Sponsors

With your enthusiastic support, Walk for the Cure 2023 was a huge success.

Thanks in part to your invaluable contribution we were able to raise over \$75,000, to donate to the Breast Friends and the Mount Saint John Medical Centre Oncology department.

Your continued generosity is greatly appreciated, and we look forward to future collaboration in 2024. Thank you for your unwavering support.



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APUA INET end Treasury's unbeaten run in business volleyball league

Defending champion APUA INET ended the perfect run of Treasury in the Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association's (ABAVA) Business League at the indoor facility at the YMCA Sports Complex on Saturday night.

APUA INET notched up their fourth win in five games by cruising to their 25-8, 25-18 victory against Treasury, who lost for the first time after winning their previous five encounters.

APUA INET also surged to a 25-10, 25-20 victory against MEDSO/UWI Fusion, which slumped to their sixth loss in as many games to remain

in the cellar of the 11-team round-robin competition.

Treasury had won their fifth game by easing their way to a 25-19, 25-21 victory over newcomers Royalton, which lost for the fourth time in four encounters.

77 Bus recorded their second win in seven games by cruising to a 25-19, 25-20 victory against MEDSO/UWI Fusion.

ICONS notched up their fourth win in five games by securing a 25-11, 25-16 victory against 77 Bus, which lost for the fifth time in the competition. Nate's Photography grabbed their fourth win in five matches. They se-

cured a 25-19, 25-19 victory against the Antigua and Barbuda International Institute of Technology (ABIIT), which lost for the third time in as many outings.

The Sandals claimed their third win in six games by prevailing 21-25, 25-12, and 15-8 against the Media, which suffered their third loss in four appearances.

But Sandals succumbed to a 2-1 loss against the Eastern Caribbean Amalgamated Bank (ECAB), which maintained its perfect unbeaten run.

ECAB bagged their fifth win in as many games by prevailing 23-25, 25-13, and 15-7 against the Sandals.


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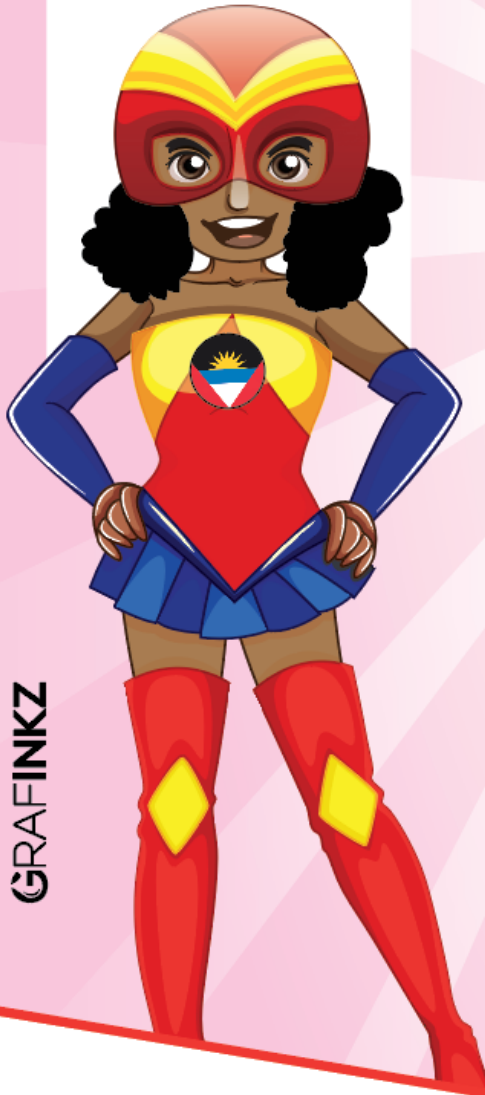
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Da Silva to lead West Indies 'A' Team on tour of South Africa

The Cricket West Indies (CWI) Senior Men's Selection Panel has named the West Indies "A" Team for the upcoming tour of South Africa. The West Indies will play three four-day "Test" matches against South Africa "A" from November 21 to December 8.

Joshua Da Silva, the wicket-keeper/batsman has again been named as captain following the West Indies "A" victory in the series in Bangladesh earlier this year. Tevin Imlach,



Joshua Da Silva

the other wicket-keeper/batsman, has been named as the vice-captain.

The 14-member squad includes five players with Test match experience: Da Silva; batsmen Kirk McKenzie, and Tagenarine Chanderpaul; along with fast bowlers Jayden Seales and Shermion Lewis.

The squad also includes three newcomers to the international level: Kevlon Anderson, the right-handed batsman; fast bowler Shamar Joseph, and allrounder Abhijai Mansingh. All three made their first-class debuts earlier this year.

Andre Coley is the head coach for the tour. The assistant coaches are Jimmy Adams, the former West Indies Test captain, and Shaun Tait, the former Australia fast bowler.

Lead selector, Dr. Desmond Haynes, stated that the panel picked a balanced team to give the players more exposure in overseas conditions, similarly to the previous "A" Team tour to Bangladesh



Tevin Imlach

earlier this year.

FULL SQUAD: Joshua Da Silva (captain), Tevin Imlach (vice-captain), Kevlon Anderson, Tagenarine Chanderpaul, Kavem Hodge, Akeem Jordan, Shamar Joseph, Shermion Lewis, Jair McAllister, Zachary McCaskie, Kirk McKenzie, Abhijai Mansingh, Jayden Seales, and Kevin Sinclair.

Team Management: Andre Coley (head coach), Dwain Gill (team manager), Jimmy Adams (assistant coach), Shaun Tait (assistant coach), Barrington Gayle (physiotherapist), and Asia Joseph (strength & conditioning coach).

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James then put together a 27-run fifth wicket partnership before James became Khary Pierre's first victim for seven.

Hayden Walsh Jr was next to go for 20 to leave the Hurricanes 116 for six in the 36th over. Captain Alzarri Joseph then came and went for two one over later to leave the score at 121 for seven.

Greaves then attempted to continue his innings and added just one run to his total before being the eighth wicket to fall, going caught off the bowling of Akeal Hosein for 12.

Hamilton was the ninth wicket to fall for a well-made top score of 62 from 102 balls, his fourth fifty of the tournament. His knock included just three fours and a six. Daniel Doram was last to go for five.

Narine, playing his last ever List A game, took three for 17 from nine overs, while Terrance Hinds continued his excellent form this season with three for 16 from seven overs.

Narine ended the season as the tournament's joint-leading wicket taker with 20. He also took home the Gus Logie Award as the

tournament's best fielder with nine catches.

The Red Force then started their chase with a revised target of 138 from 43 overs. Kjorn Ottley and Joshua Da Silva put on 45 for the first wicket before Da Silva fell in the ninth over for a run-a-ball 28.

Ottley was then joined by skipper Darren Bravo and the pair put on a further 39 before Ottley was dismissed for 23 in the 17th over.

Bravo, who finished the tournament as the highest run-scorer with 416 runs at an average of 83, was next to go for a top score of 40.

Nicholas Pooran and Jason Mohammed then guided the Red Force to 141 for three after 23.4 overs. Pooran finished on 39 not out off just 20 balls, and brought up the victory with three consecutive sixes off the bowling of Alzarri Joseph.

Hayden Walsh Jr. picked up two for 19 from four overs for the Hurricanes. He ended the season with 20 wickets, tied with Sunil Narine as the highest wicket-taker for the tournament.

He was also named as the tournament's best all-rounder. Shai Hope took home the award for best wicketkeeper.

T&T Red Force win 2023 Super50 Cup

The Trinidad & Tobago Red Force are champions of the CG United Super50 Cup for the 14th time after a dominant seven-wicket win over the Leeward Islands Hurricanes in the final at the Brian Lara Cricket Academy on Saturday.

The Leewards posted a subpar 135 all out from 41.5 overs after winning the toss and choosing to bat. Important to note, the match was eventually reduced to 43 overs per side after a pair of rain delays during the Hurricanes innings.

The Leewards, who have depended heavily on



New champions Trinidad and Tobago Red Force celebrate with their trophy after winning the 2023 CG United Super50 Cup title at the Brian Lara Cricket Academy in Tarouba, Trinidad, on Saturday, November 11, 2023. (CWI Media)

the opening partnership of Kieran Powell and Justin Greaves, lost them both in quick time due to a poor shot

and bad luck.

Powell was bowled all ends up by Shannon Gabriel for just eight in the fourth over before, just two overs later, Greaves, who entered this final on the back of four 50-plus scores in a row, was forced to retire hurt on 11 after suffering a hamstring injury while running a single.

This brought Keacy Carty and Jahmar Hamilton together in the middle and the pair brought the score to 40 in the 13th over before Carty played an ill-advised slash at a ball outside the off stump, which produced an edge that wicketkeeper Joshua Da Silva gladly snatched up off the bowling of Ter-

rance Hinds for 12.

Things could have gotten even worse for the Leewards, as Hamilton was dropped on two occasions in quick succession, first by Nicholas Pooran off the bowling of Sunil Narine in the 14th over, then in the very next over by Akeal Hosein off the bowling of Terrence Hinds.

The Red Force didn't have to wait too long for their next wicket, however, as in that same 14th over, Narine had Terrence Warde trapped LBW for a duck.

It was soon 43 for four as Narine dismissed Rakeem Cornwall in a similar fashion. Hamilton and Kofi

cont'd on pg 23



Off-spinner Sunil Narine is given a guard of honour by teammates of the Trinidad and Tobago Red Force during the final of the CG United Super50 Cup against the Leeward Islands Hurricane at the Brian Lara Cricket Academy in Tarouba, Trinidad, on Saturday, November 11, 2023. It was Narine's last regional match for Trinidad and Tobago after announcing his retirement from International and List A cricket on Sunday, November 5, 2023.