

PM BROWNE APPEALS FOR GLOBAL ACTION ON CLIMATE CRISIS

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Bumper Cruise Season!



It was another busy weekend for the cruise sector when Arvia, Norwegian Jade, Marella Discovery, Sea Cloud and Royal Clipper docked at Saint John's Harbour on Saturday, bringing more than 9,000 passengers to the destination. Additionally, more than 800 passengers arrived by air on Saturday and boarded Arvia and Royal Clipper to begin their cruise vacations. It was the second time that Antigua Cruise Port coordinated simultaneous homeporting exercises. (Photo: Antigua Cruise Port)

PM Browne appeals for global action on climate crisis



Prime Minister Gaston Browne

Prime Minister Gaston Browne has appealed for unity across the globe as fears intensify about the climate crisis.

Prime Minister Browne was at the time addressing Saturday’s plenary of COP28 now taking place in Dubai, where he joined a list of global leaders in sharing their country’s position on the various remedies being considered to reduce the worsening impact of climate change.

During his address, the Antiguan and Barbudan head of government said progress is lagging and am-

bition is still well off from the mitigation and adaptation measures that island nations urgently require in driving positive action on the climate front. “...climate change is fast outpacing the incremental progress we have made since Paris, with potential catastrophic consequences if we overshoot the 1.5 degrees threshold,” Prime Minister Browne told the meeting. “The irony, is that small island states that contribute the least to global CO2 emissions - a mere 0.5 percent are its greatest victims,” he declared.

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It's a cry that rings with familiarity, as the Antigua and Barbuda leader has remained constant in his appeal for the industrialised world to scale up their ambitions so that vulnerable countries can build the necessary resilience to recover from climate impacts. Fortright and fearless, he told the summit: "The future weapons of mass destruction will not be bombs or guns; they will be scorching temperatures, persistent droughts, rising tides and ferocious winds.

"Despite these dire potential consequences to all of humanity; the protection of the fossil fuel industry

continues to be a priority in the pursuit of extortionate profits, at the expense of all of humanity, especially people in climate vulnerable countries," Prime Minister Browne contended in an overt swipe at the industrialised world.

"Is it fair and just that powerful countries could profiteer from the irresponsible and profligate use of fossil fuels at the expense of the obliteration of vulnerable countries? Is it fair?" he asked.

Prime Minister Browne used the opportunity to press home an appeal for the adoption of the Multidimensional Vulnerability Index, so that island nations can

gain increased access to the financing they need in times of disaster. He repeated his call for the introduction of a carbon tax and welcomed the proposal by France & Kenya to establish a global tax on greenhouse gas emissions to scale up climate funding.

"In addition, we support the call for a fossil fuel non-proliferation treaty to build momentum to curbing the use of fossil fuels and to accelerate the transition to renewables" he added.

The Global Stocktake is a major undertaking at this year's COP, as it measures the effort by countries to meet their goals in helping to reduce the impact of cli-

mate change and keep within the 1.5 warming limit.

The science shows that an overshoot of the 1.5 degree warming threshold will spell untold disaster for small, vulnerable island nations like Antigua and Barbuda.

The GST, Prime Minister Browne noted, should reaffirm the commitments to a "1.5 degrees pathway for a just, equitable and accelerated transition, the capitalization and operationalisation of the Loss & Damage Fund and the provision of adequate transformational finance for a 1.5 degrees agenda and interim adaptation and mitigation funding".



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Local News



Prime Minister affirms support for Guyana's territorial integrity

The attention of the Government of Antigua and Barbuda has been brought to a story published on December 3rd, in an internet news portal called, "Antigua News", which attributed certain remarks to Prime Minister Gaston Browne, regarding Guyana and Venezuela.

Prime Minister Gaston Browne affirms categorically that his position and that of his government, aligns fully with the public statement of CARICOM issued on December 1st, which recognises the territorial integrity of Guyana and supports the process at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) as the legal and peaceful means of dealing with this matter.

The prime minister said that his



government rejects aggression of any kind, and insists that the Caribbean region must remain a zone of peace in the interest of the well-being and prosperity of the region's people.

Prime Minister Browne added that as recently as Saturday, he spoke with the presidents of Brazil and Cuba, asking them to urge President Maduro to respect the decision of the ICJ.

They're BACK



STRIPS 'R' BACK



FOR PICKUP/DELIVERY:



Friends and associates remember Talk Show Host Kentae Semper

Tributes have been pouring in for Albert Kentae “Rastaman” Semper who died suddenly early Saturday morning.

Semper, who hosted the talk show “Reasoning” on POINTE FM, reportedly suffered a medical emergency while driving his Toyota RAV 4 in Bendals, causing it to veer off the road. He was the only occupant of the vehicle at the time of the incident and was discovered on his side, his body between the driver and front passenger seats.

His death has shocked many who recalled their engagements with him during the course of last week.

Prime Minister Gaston Browne was among those expressing sympathy writing on his social media page, “My heartfelt condolences to the family of Rastaman Kentae on his shocking and untimely passing”.

Speaking to POINTE XPRESS, Chairman of Pointville Communications Inc. Luther Lee, described Kentae as an avid footballer who was family oriented and politically opiniated.

“He was an important force who connected with people. He built bridges,” Lee said.

“He is one that will tell you straight up he is a supporter and member of the Labour Party (ABLP), but that did not stop him from questioning what the party put forward. If he is not in agreement, he is going to tell you. He connected with young people in a very serious way and he always put himself out to help them with their problems. Even with his profession, he trained a lot of youngsters. But the most important part of Kentae is his children, he placed them first,” Chairman Lee remarked.

He added that Semper brought his own style to his talk show, which in-



Kentae Semper

cluded the names of a long list of people he called out on the airwaves before beginning his programme, doing it without compensation.

Mr. Semper served as a director of the Central Board of Health (CBH). In a statement, Chairman of the CBH, Winston Williams, in offering condolences to Semper’s relatives and friends remembered him as someone who worked in the interest of the employees.

“Director Semper attended his last board meeting on Thursday November 30th, his energy and excitement was at an all-time high, his contributions and many interventions were largely focused on the workers of the Central Board of Health wanting to ensure we included them in the season’s celebrations of Christmas.

“His passing comes as a complete shock to the Board as he had undertaken a number of projects aimed at making the lives of the workers better,” Williams wrote.

Kentae, as he was popularly known, was a graduate of Antigua Grammar School and became a certified electrician. He would often reminisce on his school days and the great times he had playing cricket at AGS.

He is being remembered as someone who had sound knowledge of social, political and international issues and was not afraid to share his views.

The Bendals resident is also being described as someone who was sociable, often referring to people he knew or did not know as “Young Man” or “Young Lady” and was a friend to many.

Audley “Beef” Joseph said his friendship with Kentae Semper goes back several decades. Joseph recalled that his friend joined him on radio while he served as host of “Voice of the People”, particularly on Fridays that were considered slow days. Overtime, they both moved to Pointe FM, until Joseph departed approximately one year ago and Semper assumed the role of talk show host. Joseph also spoke of their basketball days on the courts of YMCA and at Clare Hall and while Kentae was not a player, he was present. Mingling after the games, their conversations always included politics.

“After playing, we would sit down and have something to drink or something to eat and the conversation would most likely turn to politics and we would have diverse opinions on the court.

“If it’s one thing I can tell you about Kentae, his family — his children and his friends were very dear to him. I want to make a special effort to make sure that his daughters, his grandchild, his wife and his family know that I’m sending out my condolence to them and I want to encourage them to hold on to the almighty hands in this trying time, because only he knows.”

Kentae Semper’s final radio appearance was on Thursday evening with his co-hosts Jermaine Lewis and Ronald Greenaway.

Sir Viv immortalised on ECCB Commemorative Banknote

An EC\$2 Commemorative Banknote bearing the image of National Hero and Cricketing Legend, Sir Isaac Vivian Alexander Richards, will go into full circulation on Wednesday throughout the Eastern Caribbean Currency Union.

The limited edition special note was unveiled on Friday evening during a ceremony at Sandals Grande Antigua in observance of the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank's 40th Anniversary.

Commercial banks will be the first to issue the EC\$2 banknote that was created in collaboration with currency printers De La Rue and is legal tender

the ECCB has advised.

During Friday evening's ceremony, Governor Timothy Antoine of the central bank said consent was swift from the Chairman of the Monetary Council of the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank, Camillo Gonsalves and other members on the idea of a commemorative note and for a new image to be placed on it.

Governor Antoine explained the symbolism behind Sir Viv's image on the banknote, recalling the Eastern Caribbean Dollar was pegged to the United States Dollar in 1976, the same year in which Sir

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Sir Viv Richards and Chairman of the Monetary Council of the ECCB, Camillo Gonsalves at the unveiling of the EC\$2 Commemorative Banknote

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Vivian Richards recorded his highest test score of 291 runs.

“Our currency the E.C. dollar has weathered many shocks [including] hurricanes, recessions, volcano, pandemic and we are still, just as Sir Viv stood tall, we are still standing tall,” Antoine asserted.

He described the decision to place the image of the Antiguan and Barbudan cricketing legend on the banknote as a “singular honour”.

“Our hope is that by this act we make today, you [Sir Viv] will deliver fresh inspiration for the people of the Caribbean.

“Not just for our cricketers, but for all of our youth and our people around the world because in you, I hope we can rekindle through this act, a consciousness about Caribbean civilisation, self-belief, a sense of purpose and fearlessness as you so ably demonstrated on the field of play that small nations can do big things on the global stage so that your legacy Sir Viv, hopefully will live even longer...through this simple, but very important act of placing your image on our currency.”

In response, Sir Vivian Richards expressed appreciation at the gesture and paid tribute to his late parents for his success.

“I’m truly humbled tonight to receive this recognition from the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank. To be honoured in such a way is something dreams are made of.

“On a personal note, I wish my parent Malcolm and Grathel Richards were here tonight to witness this.

“They are the ones who instilled in me the self-belief, which enabled me to be successful. To them I say a big thank you!”

Sir Viv congratulated the ECCB on its 40th anniversary, noting the milestone achievement underscores the critical role the bank plays in the development of OECS states.

The ECCB says the features on the EC\$2 banknote are drawn from across the sub-region and include its colours and marine biodiversity among other images.



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Junior Chef Cook-off Finals set for today

The inaugural winner of the Taste of Wadadli Junior Chef Cook-Off Competition will be named today at the finale scheduled to take place at the Antigua and Barbuda Hospitality Training Institute.

Organised by the Antigua and Barbuda Hotels and Tourism Association (ABHTA) and the Ministry of Tourism, Civil Aviation, Transportation and Investment, the finals of the competition will include Azarie Crump of St. Joseph's Academy, Gregoryann Thomas of Sir McChesney George Secondary School, Janiya Murphy of Seventh-Day Adventist Secondary School and Ashauny Rattary of Antigua State College.

A total of 17 schools participated in four rounds of competition, but only four have advanced to the finals.

The students' final dishes will



have to impress Chefs Dean Samuel and Olvanah Burnette, along with Mario Colindres, the general manager of Goddard Catering Group Antigua and Barbuda, who will then name the winner.

A prize of EC\$10,000 will be

awarded to the winning school to enhance their Home Economics facilities, while the top junior chef will be given the opportunity to represent Team Antigua and Barbuda at the Taste of Caribbean event in Miami next year.

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Compassionate payment still available for former LIAT workers

A small window of opportunity remains open for former employees of LIAT 1974 Ltd. to benefit from the compassionate payment being offered by the Government of Antigua and Barbuda, as plans advance for the establishment of LIAT 2020.

While some have accepted the offer, many of the former workers have refused to step forward, reacting on advice from their bargaining agent the Antigua and Barbuda Workers' Union, who is demanding severance and other emol-

uments in full.

Government maintains it has no obligation to honour those claims, insisting its offer of 32 per cent, represents the shares Antigua and Barbuda held in the airline.

During last Thursday's Post-Cabinet Press Briefing, Chief of Staff in the Office of the Prime Minister, Ambassador Lionel 'Max' Hurst said the refusal by some to accept the compassionate payment is ill-conceived.

"Those who have jobs flying airplanes in Afri-



ca, Canada, parts of the United States, they might be able to afford that, but there are people living in Antigua who have children and families and they need the resources and the way they get those resources is by signing up for the compassionate payment, which the honourable Gaston Browne, as minister of finance and the Cabinet of Antigua and Barbuda arranged," Hurst told reporters.

According to him, at least half of the money that was set aside by the government remains unclaimed.

"There still is a million dollars remaining in this account, so that any LIAT worker who is interested, can in fact collect his or her money, but it won't be 100 per cent.

Mr. Hurst argued that the outstanding 68 per cent

of compensation is the responsibility of the other shareholding governments, namely Barbados, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Dominica.

Former employees of LIAT 1974 Ltd. risk losing everything once the airline is liquidated and LIAT 2020 emerges through an agreement between the Government of Antigua and Barbuda and Nigerian-based airline Air Peace, that will own a 70 per cent stake in the new company.

It was noted that the value of the assets owed by LIAT is limited and will not be able to meet the airline's outstanding obligations.

Officials are anticipating that the arrangements for the operationalisation of LIAT 2020 will be completed in short order and the new company will take to the skies by the end of December, 2023.

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO REPLACE LOST OR DESTROYED LAND CERTIFICATE

TAKE NOTICE that an application was filed in the Land Registry on the 14th day of November, 2023 by Mrs. Denise Parillon, Attorney at Law, of Jonas Parillon & Co. Inc. of Sir Sydney Walling Highway, St. John's, Antigua on behalf of Mr. Francis Kentish, attorney of Geraldine Kentish, Executrix/Personal Representative of the late Gwendolyn Geraldine O'Garro, the Applicant herein for the replacement of Land Certificate #5244/89 dated the 6th day of November, 1989 issued to Gwendolyn O'Garro, being the owner of the above-mentioned property which has been lost or destroyed.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that anyone who objects to the issue of a new Land Certificate or who has knowledge of the original Land Certificate must within the period of one (1) month from the Second Publication of this notice in the newspaper inform the Registrar of Lands in writing.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that in the absence of any objection or information as to the existence of the original Land Certificate within the time specified the Registrar of Lands may proceed to cancel the original Land Certificate and issue a new Land Certificate in its place without further notice

Dated the 27th day of November, 2023

Registrar of Lands

Opinion

Hair we go again folks!

By **Tony Deyal**

When I was in my 40s, my friends and I used to joke that “three score and ten” had to be our success with women and the number we had dallied with. In our language, they were “scores” and we had indulged with scores of them.

We really did not look too closely at the scores of women we spent time with and their scores. It is not that I was unaware the “three score and ten” was from the Bible (Psalm 90:10) which states, “The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.”

Now, as I close in on “four score”, not in ladies of the night or day but in age (80), it is a case of here today, gone tomorrow. However, long before that, with me and other men especially, but not totally, it is and has always been hair today and “done finish” or gone yesterday, today and worse, tomorrow.

I remember my barber telling me, “Tony, you could put some colour in your hair you know.” I replied, “Not me. We heroes never die.”

My friend Patrick who was there with me shouted, “Hair! Hair!” My son Zubin, when he was in his teens, used to joke about my hair-loss with comments like, “Daddy, you have atom-

ic hair. Plenty fallout” and “You’re so bald Daddy, that even if we get you vex you can’t afford to blow your top.”

He was not the only one to make fun of my baldness. One of my friends in the Canadian university I went to saw me reading a book by one of my favourite authors, P.G. Wodehouse.

He advised me, “Tony, forget P.G. You should go for Steven King. He writes some hair-raising tales.” Another friend recommended a new miracle drug for baldness that you had to rub on your head twice a day.

“It doesn’t grow hair like some of the others,” he advised. “What it does is that it shrinks your head to fit your remaining hair.”

Another, when I worked for PAHO, insisted that there was at least one advantage of not having any hair. He laughed, “You will definitely not have any use for keys.” While the others around us laughed, I was perplexed and asked, “What you mean by that?” He laughed even harder and then explained, “Well seeing that you lose your locks.”

One day I was having some word-play fun with Zubin and I asked him, “What’s the difference between an ape, an orphan, a prince, and a bald man?” We all laughed at the answer – an ape has a hairy parent, an orphan has nary a parent, a prince is an heir apparent,



Tony Deyal

and a bald man has no hair apparent.

When the laughter died down, Zubin’s mom added, “You know about hair today, gone tomorrow? Well, yours left since last year.” My traditional response, though not as belligerent as before, has always been, “Just because there is a hole in the roof it does not mean that the fire inside is not still blazing hot.” I made sure that I looked deeply in my wife’s eyes when I said that.

I dealt with Zubin very quickly by sharing a story from the work of the great American humourist, Erma Bombeck.

She believed that you should never lend your car to anyone to whom you have given birth. Her son asked her for use of the “family” car. She demanded, “First, you have to get good marks

in school, keep your room clean, make certain the yard is neat, and cut your hair. When you do that I will reconsider.”

Time and term exams passed and the young man said smiling, “Mom, I did very well in exams. I have been keeping my room neat and cleaning the yard. Can I use the car now?” His mother said, “All of that is true, but you didn’t cut your hair.” The boy replied, “But, mom, Jesus had long hair.” His mother replied, “Yes, son, you’re perfectly right. And he walked everywhere he went.”

Unfortunately, Zubin no longer asks me to use the car. In return he cuts what is left of my hair. He used to drive me up a wall with his jokes about my hair-loss but now, armed with his cutting *cont’d on pg 11*

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tools, he puts me on a chair and drives me up a Wahl (electric hair clipper). It is always a hairy situation and a very close shave.

Fortunately for me, I get badly sunburnt because of my medication. This at least saves me from the fate of the ancient Greek poet, Aeschylus, noted for his tragedies, who had one of his own when he became the earliest recorded death from baldness.

An eagle, which had seized a tortoise and was looking to smash the reptile's shell by letting it fall from a great height, mistook the poet's bald head for a stone and dropped the tortoise on it.

On the other hand, having great hair on a big head like mine, does not go down well all the time. A youngster who was getting more jokes at his ex-

pense than I got at PAHO came home very upset and in tears. He complained to his mother, "All the kids in school make fun of me. They say I have a big head."

His very solicitous mom comforted him by saying, "Don't worry with them. They're just a waste of time and envy your beautiful head full of hair and brains. All of them will get bald long before you and you would get a chance to laugh at them."

Then she told him, "Now stop crying. I want you to go to the store and buy a pound of rice and two pounds of potatoes for me. I have to cook dinner." The boy asked, "Mom. Where's the shopping bag? You know Neal and Massy now charges you for even plastic ones." His mother replied, "What happen to you?, You know we don't have any. Use your hat!"

I have a hat that protects me from the sun. In any case, I can no longer scratch the few strands of hair left on my balding head until I come to terms with the fact that I am now "folicaly challenged", and if I thank the Almighty at all it is not as an "elderly person" but as a "senior citizen" whose only consolation is that at my age hair loss is no longer "premature".

Like the movie-star, Clark Gable, it's gone with the wind. What I take with me is this story. The US playwright, Marc Connelly, ran his hand over a friend's bald head and said, "That feels like my wife's behind." His friend then stroked Connelly's head and replied, "So it does."

Tony Deyal was last seen embarrassed by the fact that when he heard Jamaica had a curling team, he thought it was hairsay.

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TikTok: US judge blocks Montana's ban citing free speech

By Mariko Oi

A US judge has blocked Montana's ban on TikTok, saying it violated the free speech rights of users.

In May, Montana became the first US state to pass the ban which was scheduled to take effect on 1 January.

The short-video sharing app, which is owned by China's ByteDance, sued Montana a week later.

US District Judge Donald Molloy agreed with TikTok, saying that it "violates the Constitution in more ways than one" and "oversteps state power".

The law would have made it illegal for app stores to offer TikTok, and firms would have faced penalties of up to \$10,000 (£7,097).

TikTok told the BBC that it was pleased that the "unconstitutional law" was rejected.



It added that "hundreds of thousands of Montanans can continue to express themselves, earn a living, and find community on TikTok".

The office of Montana's state attorney told Reuters that it was considering its next steps "to defend the law that protects Montanans

from the Chinese Communist Party obtaining and using their data".

Montana, which has a population of just over one million, banned the app from government devices last December.

TikTok says it has 150 million American users, the majority of whom are in

their teens and 20s.

The app has come under scrutiny from authorities around the world over concerns that data could be passed to the Chinese government.

A congressional committee questioned its chief executive, Shou Zi Chew in March on whether that was possible.

Mr Shou repeatedly said that TikTok would never spy on Americans. He however admitted that employees had monitored the accounts of journalists.

Earlier in March, the US government said ByteDance should sell TikTok or face a possible ban in the country.

Last month, Nepal joined others such as India in banning TikTok because its content "was detrimental to social harmony."

ByteDance has repeatedly denied it is controlled by the Chinese government.

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The PAHO/WHO recommended tool for surveillance of noncommunicable diseases and their risk factors.

The Ministry of Health, Wellness, Social Transformation and the Environment, in collaboration with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), will be conducting its first STEPS survey.

WHAT IS STEPS?

STEPS is a household survey, similar to the national census. It is a three step process aimed at collecting information on the health behaviors of Antiguan and Barbudans, and their risks factors for chronic diseases, NCDs like diabetes, hypertension, cancers and chronic respiratory diseases.

WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE?

Persons aged 18-69 years will be identified to participate in the survey.

WHY SHOULD YOU GET INVOLVED?

The information from STEPS will help to improve our national strategies and actions to decrease the burden of NCDs in our country. By getting involved you become a part of the solution.

STEP
1

You will be asked questions about your health and lifestyle practices.

STEP
2

Some simple measurements such as height, weight, waist-circumference and blood pressure will be taken.

STEP
3

Health professionals will take a urine sample, and a finger-prick blood sample will be taken for testing fats and sugar.



Guyana calls on Venezuela to show “maturity and responsibility”

CMC - Guyana Sunday urged the Venezuelan government to “show maturity and responsibility” as Caracas moves ahead with a planned “consultative referendum” regarding the ownership of the mineral rich Essequibo region in Guyana.

In an early morning broadcast, President Irfaan Ali said that Caracas should avoid becoming an international outcast” and not to go ahead with the referendum.

“I am not going to get into the internal politics of Venezuela and their policy-making but I want to advise Venezuela that this is an opportunity for them to show maturity and an opportunity to show responsibility.

“We call upon them once more to join us, to join us in demonstrating maturity and responsibility and to allow the rule of law to determine the outcome of this controversy,” Ali said.

On Friday, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) ruled that Venezuela must not take any action to seize the mineral and forest-rich county of Essequibo in Guyana based on its upcoming referendum.

Both Georgetown and Caracas had made presentations to the ICJ during two days of hearing earlier this month into the case relating to the 1899 Arbitral Award after Guyana, in its request, had said that the Venezuela government, through its National Electoral Council had published a list of five questions that it intends to put before the people of Venezuela in a “Consultative Referendum” on Sunday.

In its ruling, the ICJ issued a number of provisional measures that “unanimously pending a final decision in the case, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela shall refrain from taking any action, which would modify the situation that currently prevails in the



President Dr Irfaan Ali gave a national address from the Essequibo Coast.

territory in dispute, whereby the Cooperative Republic of Guyana administers and exercises control over that area”.

The ICJ said also that “unanimously both parties shall refrain from any action which might aggravate or extend the dispute before the court or make it more difficult to resolve.

“The court emphasizes that the question of the validity of the 1899 Award and the related question of the definitive settlement of the land boundary dispute between Guyana and Venezuela are matters for the court to decide at the merits stage.

“The court recalls that Guyana has requested to indicate measures aimed at ensuring the non aggravation of the dispute with Venezuela, when indicating provisional measures for the purpose of reserving specific rights.”

Venezuela said it had taken “note” of the ruling by the ICJ with regards to what Caracas termed “the unusual and interventionist provisional measures requested by the Cooperative Republic of Guyana against the consultative referendum scheduled for December 3, 2023”.

But Caracas said it would continue with plans to hold the referendum called by the Electoral Branch at the request of the Parliament on Sunday regarding the ownership of the mineral and forest-rich county of Essequibo.

“Nothing and no one will prevent

the Venezuelan people from expressing themselves freely on December 3 on their own, internal and extremely important issue, such as territorial integrity.

“Venezuela reiterates that it will firmly maintain its unwavering defense of international legality and the Geneva Agreement as the only legal instrument that allows reaching a practical and satisfactory solution for both parties, through friendly, political and peaceful negotiations.”

In his early morning broadcast, President Ali also spoke directly to the people of Venezuela ahead of the referendum, reminding them that the two countries are neighbours.

“I want to speak directly to the Venezuelan people. We are your neighbours, and we are taught to love our neighbours as we love ourselves. And long after this controversy, we will live together as neighbours. You have to determine within yourselves whether you want to be part of a system that runs afoul of international law, that runs afoul based on all the feedback internationally”.

Ali told the Guyanese population that there is nothing to fear and that the country’s vigilance will be enhanced and Guyana will continue to work around the clock to ensure that the borders remain intact and that the people of Guyana remain safe.

“I am proud of the way, Guyanese, and every one of us, have handled this challenge”, Ali said, adding he is also proud of the level of patriotism and the togetherness he continues to see from Guyanese across the country, noting that it is something that the country must take forward in enhancing a more united Guyana.

President Ali returned early from the United Nations Climate Change
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PAHO mourns passing of former director Dr Carissa Etienne

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) says a great public health champion has been lost following the passing of Director Emeritus Dr Carissa F. Etienne.

Dr Carissa F. Etienne, a native of Dominica, served as Director of PAHO and World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Director for the Americas from February 2013 to January 2023.

“Carissa was a dear friend and colleague, and under her steadfast leadership and guidance, PAHO achieved significant milestones for the region of the Americas while facing one of our greatest public health challenges with COVID-19,” PAHO Director Dr Jarbas Barbosa said. “I am very saddened by her passing, and my thoughts are with her family, friends and all of us at PAHO who cared deeply for her.”

During Dr Etienne’s tenure, PAHO led the response to the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic in the region of the Americas, as well as efforts to control Zika and chikungunya epidemics and cholera and yellow fever outbreaks in Haiti and Brazil, while significantly improving the Organization’s

response to emergencies and disasters within 48 hours.

Under her leadership, the Americas eliminated the endemic transmission of measles, rubella, and congenital rubella syndrome, and made considerable strides in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases. Legislative and regulatory mechanisms gained traction, as countries enacted legislation on the labelling of food products and introduced taxes on sugar-sweetened beverages.

Advances were also made in strengthening national health systems and in progress toward universal health. In the last five years of Dr Etienne’s mandate, deliveries by skilled birth attendants increased from 95 per cent to nearly 100 per cent and, for the first time, the Region of the Americas reached the recommended target of 25 physicians and nurses per 10,000 people.

Prior to becoming PAHO Director, from March 2008 to November 2012, Dr Etienne served as Assistant Director-General for Health Systems and Services at the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva, Switzerland. Before that, she served as Assistant Director of the



Dr Carissa Etienne- Former PAHO Director.

Pan American Sanitary Bureau from July 2003 to February 2008, where she led five technical areas: Health Systems and Services; Technology, Health Care, and Research; Health Surveillance and Disease Management; Family and Community Health; and Sustainable Development and Environmental Health.

During her tenure at both WHO and PAHO, Dr Etienne directed efforts to renew and strengthen health systems based on primary health care. She has also spearheaded policies for reducing health inequalities, increasing people-centered care, and integrating health into broader public policies.

“We have lost a great public health champion,” Dr Barbosa said. “Dr Etienne’s invaluable experience will be sorely missed in global

health discussions to improve the lives of people and to ensure better preparedness for global health emergencies.”

Dr Etienne began her career in her native Dominica as a medical officer at the Princess Margaret Hospital and was later appointed as the Chief Medical Officer of that country. She has also served in other high-level posts in Dominica, including as Director of Primary Health Care Services, Coordinator of the National AIDS Program, Disaster Coordinator for the Ministry of Health, and Chair of the National Advisory Council for HIV/AIDS.

Dr Etienne received her medical degree (Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery-MBBS) from the University of the West Indies, Jamaica, and her Master of Science Degree (MSc) in Community Health in Developing Countries from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of London.

cont’d from pg 14

Conference (COP 28) being held in Dubai. He said he met and held talks with a number of world leaders, briefing them on the current situation with Venezuela.

He offered thanks to those who have offered their full support of Guyana and the judicial process, and urged the more quiet ones to speak up against Venezuela’s continued aggression against Guyana.

Mindanao: Four killed in explosion at Catholic Mass in Philippines

Four people have been killed in an explosion at a Catholic Mass in the southern Philippines on Sunday morning.

The incident occurred at the gymnasium of Mindanao State University in Marawi, the country's largest Muslim city.

Forty-two others suffered mostly minor wounds, authorities said, adding the situation was "under control".

In 2017, Marawi was the scene of a five-month battle between government forces and militants with links to the Islamic State group.

The Daulah Islamiyah-Maute Group could be behind Sunday's bombing, said Brig Gen Allan Nobleza, the police commander in the region.

Gen Nobleza said 11 of its members died in an encounter with the Philippine Army last Friday in neighbouring Datu Hoffer Ampatuan town - suggesting Sunday's explosion could be a form of retaliation.

The Islamic State group has claimed responsibility for the attack, according to the AFP news agency.

President Ferdinand Marcos Jr condemned the blast as a "senseless and most heinous" act, which was "perpetrated by foreign terrorists". He did not elaborate.

He appealed to the pub-



The blast may be retaliation after 11 militants linked to the Islamic State group died in clashes with the army last Friday, officials suggest.

lic to remain calm. "Rest assured, we will bring the perpetrators of this ruthless act to justice," he said.

A grenade or an improvised bomb is likely to have caused the explosion, officials said, citing a preliminary investigation.

Photos shared on social media by local officials showed plastic chairs in disarray and dark fragments on the ground of the MSU gymnasium after the blast. Aside from its floor, the building did not appear to sustain major damage.

Those who were brought to a nearby hospital received treatment mostly for minor wounds and bruises, photos suggested. The Provincial Governor, Mamintal Adiong Jr, said many of the three dozen wounded have been sent

home.

Masses on Sunday drew larger crowds than usual across the Philippines as it is the start of Advent, the Catholic Church's four-week vigil to Christmas Day.

Nearly 80% of the country's 113 million population are Catholic and it is not uncommon for school gymnasiums and even shopping malls to designate areas for Sunday Mass, especially in places where there are no churches.

The MSU, one of country's largest universities, said it was "deeply saddened and appalled" by the "senseless and horrific" violence.

"Violence has no place in a civilized society, and it is particularly abhorrent in an institution of higher

learning like MSU," it said.

"We stand in solidarity with our Christian community and all those affected by this tragedy."

The university added that additional security staff had been deployed on its campus and that all academic activities would be suspended until further notice.

Mindanao is home to the country's Muslim minority and has borne the brunt of insurgency and extremist violence.

In 2012, Manila and the country's largest Muslim rebel group agreed to establish an autonomous region in Mindanao and the first elections for the regional assembly was held in 2022. However, sporadic violence flares up from time to time.

Israel-Gaza war: Israeli forces pushing into south Gaza

Israeli ground forces are pushing into southern Gaza, after three days of heavy bombardment.

Initial reports from Israeli army radio effectively confirmed Israel has launched a ground operation to the north of Khan Younis.

The BBC has also verified images of an Israeli tank operating near the city.

The head of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) later told troops the IDF was also fighting “strongly and thoroughly” in south Gaza.

Lt General Herzi Halevi was speaking to reservists from the Gaza division about military objectives and the IDF’s killing of Hamas commanders.

He told the soldiers: “We fought strongly and thoroughly in the northern Gaza Strip, and we are also doing it now in the southern Gaza Strip”.

An IDF spokesman later confirmed Israel “continues to expand the ground incursion” across all of Gaza, including troops “conducting face to face battles with terrorists”.

Since a week-long ceasefire ended on Friday, Israel has resumed a large-scale bombing campaign on Gaza, which residents of Khan Younis have described as the heaviest wave of attacks so far.

The seven-day truce saw Hamas release 110 hos-



An Israeli military tank rolls near the border with the Gaza Strip on Sunday.

tages being held in Gaza in return for 240 Palestinians being released from Israeli prisons.

On Sunday morning, the Israeli army issued evacuation orders for several districts of Khan Younis, urging people to leave immediately.

Israeli authorities believe members of the Hamas leadership are hiding in the city, where hundreds of thousands of people have been sheltering after fleeing fighting in the north in the early stages of the war.

A UN official has described a “degree of panic” he has not seen before in a Gaza hospital, after the Israeli military shifted the focus of its offensive to the south.

James Elder, from the children’s agency Unicef, described Nasser Medical Hospital in Khan Younis as a “warzone”.

An adviser to Israel’s prime minister said Israel is making “maximum effort”

to avoid killing civilians.

Mr Elder told the BBC he could hear constant large explosions close to the Nasser hospital and children were arriving with head injuries, terrible burns, and shrapnel from recent blasts.

“It’s a hospital I’ve gone to regularly and the children know me now, the families know me now. Those same people are grabbing my hand, or grabbing my shirt saying ‘please take us somewhere safe. Where is safe?’”

“They are unfortunately asking a question to which the only answer is there is nowhere safe. And that includes for them, as they know, that hospital,” he said.

The Hamas-run health ministry in Gaza says more than 500 people have been killed since the bombing resumed.

More than 15,500 people have been killed in the strip since the war began, the ministry also said.

Mohammed Ghalayini,

a British-Palestinian who has stayed in Gaza, said the situation in the city was “beyond catastrophic”.

“People have been, for 50 days or more, withstanding brutal Israeli onslaught and are very low on all resources - food, water, power and the sanitation and the waste services,” he told the BBC by phone, before the connection cut off.

The air pollution expert, who normally lives in Manchester, arrived in Gaza for a three-month visit to see his mother shortly before the 7 October attacks.

Israel began its retaliatory bombing of Gaza following Hamas’s attacks on southern Israel on 7 October, which saw around 1,200 people killed and 240 taken hostage.

Rockets have also been regularly fired at Israel from Gaza since fighting resumed on Friday. A 22-year-old man in the city of Holon, near Tel Aviv, was treated for minor shrapnel injuries on Saturday.

Hundreds of thousands of people have already fled the fighting to take shelter in Khan Younis, after Israel told them to leave the north of the strip.

The latest UN update says around 1.8 million people are internally displaced in Gaza.

Speaking to the BBC, *cont’d on pg 18*

ECAB claims top spot in business volleyball league semi-finals

The Eastern Caribbean Amalgamated Bank (ECAB) has clinched the top seed in the semi-final of the Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association's (ABAVA) Business League Competition.

ECAB maintained their 100 percent unbeaten record by beating defending champion APUA Inet 2-0 in their final encounter at the indoor facility at the YMCA Sports Complex.

ECAB prevailed 25-23, 25-22 to finish their campaign as the top seeded team in the 11-team round-robin preliminary stage with a perfect 10 wins in as many games.

APUA INET is assured of a place in the semi-finals as the second seed with a record of eight wins and two losses.

The defending champs ended their campaign in the preliminary rounds with a 26-24, 25-23 victory against Antigua and Barbuda International Institute of Technology (ABIIT) on Saturday night.



The ECAB volleyball team. (File photo)

Nate's Photography prevailed 25-20, 25-21 against the Media to end their campaign in the preliminary stage with a record of six wins and four losses.

ICONS secured their place in the semi-finals by cruising to a 25-20, 25-11 victory against Treasury in their final game in the preliminary rounds.

ICONS ended their campaign in the preliminary round with eight wins

and two losses.

Treasury failed to advance to the semi-finals after finishing the preliminary rounds with a record of six wins and four losses, the same as Nate's Photography.

However, Nate's Photography clinched the last semi-final spot ahead of Treasury by virtue of winning more sets overall in the competition.

The Antigua and Barbuda International Institute of

Technology recorded their second win in nine games with a 25-7, 25-22 victory against 77 Bus, which ended their campaign with a record of two wins and eight losses.

The Royalton claimed their first win in nine games with a 25-20, 25-20 victory against MEDSO/UWI Fusion. It was the ninth loss in as many games for MEDSO/UWI Fusion, which slumped to the cellar in the standings.

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the UN's human rights chief, Filippo Grandi, said Palestinians in the Gaza Strip are being "pushed more and more towards a narrow corner of what is already a very narrow territory".

The IDF has begun posting maps of areas set to be attacked online. It says these maps, along with other measures like phone calls and leaflets being dropped on Gaza by plane, will

warn people to evacuate.

Speaking to the BBC's Sunday with Laura Kuennsberg programme, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's senior adviser Mark Regev said civilians are not targets and protecting them is made more difficult by Hamas "embedding its military terror machine" in civilian neighbourhoods.

He says the IDF are trying to be "as surgical as we can in a very diffi-

cult combat situation", and has given advance warning of attacks.

Separately, the IDF say they have destroyed 500 "terror tunnel" shafts used by Hamas in Gaza, out of the 800 they say have been found so far.

It also said around 10,000 air strikes on "terror targets" have been carried out by the air force "under the guidance of IDF soldiers on the ground" since the war began.

Joseph relishes new role as West Indies vice-captain

Strike bowler Alzarri Joseph means business as he steps into his new role as vice-captain of the West Indies team in the ongoing CG United One-Day International (ODI) Series against England.

Starting yesterday in his homeland of Antigua and Barbuda, the 27-year-old was elevated to the position after leading the Leeward Islands Hurricanes to the final of the CG United Super50 Cup last month, which was won by hosts Trinidad & Tobago Red Force.

Joseph said, “My role on the field does not necessarily change, but in terms of the vice-captaincy, I think it’s something that I’ll cherish for a little. For me, it will be about facilitating the captain as much as I can and sharing my advice and seeing how well I can work with him to make the team a lot more successful.”

He was speaking in an interview with CWI Media during training at the venue. Joseph said leading the Leewards was an eye-opening experience, but he had plenty of help from the senior players, which also made his job as the lead fast bowler much easier.

“It was good. I had a lot of guys around me that had captained before, so they helped me to play that role as efficiently as I can, but I also had my own philoso-



Antiguan fast bowler Alzarri Joseph, right, and West Indies coach Darren Sammy at a training session at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in Antigua on December 2, 2023. (CWI Media)

phy that I wanted to bring to the team and the guys really bought in to it,” he said.

“Once you are a bowler, you are your own captain when you have the ball, so for me, it was just about doing my job and asking the rest of the guys to back me up. When I was not bowling, I had to make sure that everyone else was on the right path and executing our plans.”

He is eagerly looking forward to the series, especially starting on home soil with family and friends watching. Back in 2016, he was a member of the West Indies Under-19 side that won the ICC Men’s Under-19 World Cup.

He now has 104 wick-

ets at 27.69 apiece from 63 ODIs since making his debut against Pakistan seven years ago in Sharjah. He was philosophical about reaching the milestone and becoming the enforcer in the attack.

“I think it’s going to be a really good series. We have been preparing very well. We are ready, and I think it will be quite entertaining.

“It’s always special playing on home soil, so I am looking forward to the matches in Antigua, but nothing changes, it’s business as usual. For me, it’s about going out onto the field and performing my role as efficiently as possible,” he said.

“It’s always good to get

to those milestones, but the job is not done yet and there is still a long way to go. So for me, it’s just about getting one per cent better every day,” he said.

The West Indies and England played in the opening game of the three-match ODI series at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in Antigua yesterday.

West Indies Squad: Shai Hope (captain), Alzarri Joseph (vice-captain), Alick Athanaze, Yannic Cariah, Keacy Carty, Roston Chase, Matthew Forde, Shimron Hetmyer, Brandon King, Gudakesh Motie, Kjorn Otley, Sherfane Rutherford, Romario Shepherd, and Osane Thomas; Daren Sammy (Head Coach).

Sports News



State College ends PMS unbeaten run in schools' football league

Antigua State College (ASC) ended Princess Margaret School's (PMS) unbeaten run in the West Zone of the Under-20 Boys Division of the Ministry of Sports Secondary Schools' Football League on Friday.

Nadre Thomas scored a brace to lead ASC to a 4-0 victory against Princess Margaret at the Golden Grove Playing Field.

Thomas had conversions in the 23rd and 54th

minutes; Johnathan Johnson scored in the 25th minute; and Kylano Isaac scored in the 52nd minute for Antigua State College.

It was the first loss in seven matches for Princess Margaret School, which remains in second place on 14 points, while ASC claimed their fourth win in six matches to leapfrog Antigua Grammar School into third place by advancing to 12 points.

Defending champion Antigua and Barbuda Institute of Continuing Education (ABICE) and All Saints Secondary School recoded wins in the East Zone of the Under-20 Boys Division.

Karique Knight scored a brace to lead ABICE to a 3-1 victory against Clare Hall Secondary School at the Potters playing field.

Knight had conversions in the 9th and 25th min-

utes, and Michael Stowe scored in the 45th minute for ABICE, which advances to 16 points from nine matches to overtake Clare Hall into second place.

Amos Christian had a 15th-minute conversion for Clare Hall Secondary, which dropped into third place on 14 points from nine outings.

Shaquiel Carlos' 40th-minute conversion was sufficient to give All Saints Secondary a 1-0 victory against Irene B. Williams Secondary at the Mack Pond Playing Field in All Saints. The win allows All Saints Secondary to consolidate its position as leaders of the competition by advancing to 22 points from nine matches.

Ottos Comprehensive School and Glanvilles battled to a 1-1 draw in an Under-16 Boys Division affair at the Golden Grove Playing Field on Friday. Tafari Looby put Ottos Comprehensive ahead with a 24th-minute conversion, and Tayquan Harris scored the equalizer for Glanvilles Secondary in the 32nd minute.

The result allows OCS to advance to 21 points from 10 matches and remain in fourth place on goal difference, while Glanvilles Secondary moves on to 16 points from 10 encounters to remain in sixth place.

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Players of the Sandals INET Jennings Grenades football team. (File photo)

Grenades, SAP, and Old Road get second wins in premier league

Defending champions Sandals INET Jennings Grenades, SAP, and Old Road all recorded their second wins in as many matches in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Premier Division League on Saturday.

Ridel Stanislas scored twice as the Grenades cruised to a 3-0 victory over Garden Stars, who were making their premier league debut in the third game of a triple-header at the ABFA Technical Center.

Jahred Williams missed a penalty for Garden Stars and Stanislas scored the opening goal in the 23rd minute to give the Grenades a 1-0 halftime lead.

Garden Stars were reduced to 10 men in the 54th minute, when referee Donald Francis gave Gerique George a red card for violent conduct.

Sherman Augustin extended the Grenades' lead with a 55th-minute conversion and Stanislas wrapped up

the scoring by converting his second and the team's final goal in the 78th minute.

Following a goalless first half, SAP scored two goals in the second half to claim a 2-0 victory against Parham in Saturday's second game.

Shaquan Telemaque scored the first in the 69th minute, and Tyrique Tonge added a second with a 77th-minute conversion.

Old Road came from behind to secure their second victory in as many matches by snatching a 3-2 victory against Empire in the opening game of Saturday's double header.

Shemar Scott, who scored both goals for Empire, converted his first in the second minute to give the former 13-time Premier Division champions a 1-0 lead.

Saviola Elva, who also scored twice for Old Road, scored his team's equalizer with his first conversion in the 8th minute. He converted his sec-

ond in the first minute of added time in the first half to give Old Road a 2-1 halftime lead.

Raheem Deterville gave Old Road a 3-1 lead with a 48th-minute conversion and Scott scored his second goal for Empire in the 90th minute.

Two promoted teams, Jennings United and Attacking Saints, drew their opening encounters in the ABFA's First Division.

Jennings United and the Potters Tigers battled to a 2-2 draw at the Jennings Playing Field.

Ordel Samuel had a 12th-minute conversion and Kelvin Carr scored in the 55th minute to give the Potters Tigers a 2-0 lead. Daryl Massicot pulled a goal back in the 78th minute and Shaquille Samuel scored the equalizer for Jennings United in the 83rd minute.

Attacking Saints and Five Islands played to a goalless draw at the Mack Pond Playing Field in All Saints.



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Players of the Sea View Farm football team. (File photo)

Five teams make winning starts in second division football

Seaview Farm, Belmont FC, English Harbour, Freemans Village and TAMO FC have all won their opening matches in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Second Division League.

Markland Wright scored a hat-trick to lead Seaview Farm to a 3-1 victory against JSC Progressors at the Seaview Farm Playing Field.

Wright scored a 2nd minute penalty and also had conversions in the 18th and 20th minutes. Aijalon Joseph scored in the 29th minute for the JSC Progressors.

Jahvier Joseph scored four times and Iandre Hodge converted twice as Belmont FC hammered Blackburn Palace 6-0 at the ABFA Technical Center.

Joseph had conversions in the 20th, 43rd, 61st (penalty), and 84th minutes and Hodge scored in the 15th and 86th minutes.

Oshane Blackwood scored a brace as English Harbour secured a 4-1 victory against Bethesda at the Bethesda Playing Field. Blackwood had conversions in the 14th and 70th minutes; Shea Walsh scored in the 60th minute; and Ni-

gel Graham converted in the 84th minute for English Harbour. O'Shale Simon scored a consolation goal for Bethesda in the 54th minute.

Freemans Village opened their campaign with a 4-0 win against Glanvilles at the Glanvilles Playing Field. Kahliq Kelman scored in the 23rd minute, Adrian Benjamin had a 33rd-minute conversion, Malik Charles scored in the 48th minute, and Darius Hector converted a penalty in the 55th minute for Freemans Village.

Jaheim Grant scored twice as TAMO FC over-

came a 3-0 deficit to snatch a 4-3 victory against Golden Grove at the Golden Grove Playing Field. Grant had conversions in the 23rd and 83rd minutes; Adonijah Dyett scored in the 38th minute and Carlus Stephens scored in the 63rd minute for TAMO FC. Stevenson Dyett also had a double conversion for Golden Grove, with goals in the 2nd and 30th minutes. Terrence Spencer scored the other goal for Golden Grove in the 4th minute.

The second division game between the Young Warriors and Urlings at the Urlings playing field was postponed.

ABAYA will host Bethesda Christian Hill in a second division encounter at the Parham Playing Field today at 4:30 pm.

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ting effort. I loved the intent, and they set the tone at the top," he said.

"Brilliant game, credit to Shai and Romario, some fantastic sixes, and we'll learn

a lot. I thought Rehan bowled really well, and there was a lot to be proud of."

Both teams will clash in the second game of the three-match series at the same venue on Wednesday, starting at 1:30 pm.

Hope leads West Indies to victory in first ODI

A magnificent century by Shai Hope powered the West Indies to a thrilling four-wicket victory over England in the first CG United One-Day International (ODI) at the Sir Vivian Richards Cricket Stadium here in Antigua on Sunday.

Set 326 for victory, Captain Hope struck an unbeaten 109, first anchoring the West Indies reply and then producing some savage hitting to guide his team home with seven balls to spare and take a 1-0 lead in the three-match series.

Hope smashed three sixes off the penultimate over off the hapless Sam Curran to reach three figures and seal the West Indies victory.

It was the West Indies' highest ever ODI run chase against England, surpassing the 286 they managed at Lord's in 2004, and their second highest against any opponent.

England were hoping to put their World Cup failure behind them, and when the West Indies slumped to 213 for five in the 38th over, it appeared that they were in control.

But Hope, in partnership with the explosive Romario Shepherd, turned the match on its head as they put on 89 in 51 balls for the sixth wicket.

Shepherd was eventually out for 48, having hit three sixes, but by then, Hope was well and truly in the groove.

The West Indies had earlier started well in their chase, with Alick Athanazzen (66) and Brandon King (35) putting on a century for the opening wicket, but England hit back with Rehan Ahmed



West Indies captain Shai Hope, right, bats against England during the first CG United One-Day International at the Sir Vivian Richards Cricket Stadium in Antigua on Sunday, December 3, 2023. (Getty Images)

taking two wickets for 40 in 10 tight overs.

England's bowlers did a decent job at hauling the West Indies back, but Curran came in for some mighty punishment, conceding 98 runs, the most ever for England in ODIs.

"I've played a lot of ODI cricket and always back myself to win in any position," Hope said.

"(Shepherd) was amazing; one of those guys you can depend on. We got the win; [we] want to continue the series on a high."

England's captain, Jos Buttler, won the toss and opted to bat on a two-paced pitch, and openers Phil Salt and Will Jacks smashed 77 for the first wicket in 8.2 overs.

They did not fully capitalize on such a great start, however, with a suc-

cession of batsmen getting set but unable to really capitalize apart from Harry Brook, who made 71.

Buttler was disappointing as he fell for three off 13 balls, while Zak Crawley was run out for 48.

Some late hitting by Curran and Brydon Carse put on 66 for England's eighth wicket as they moved past the 300 mark.

The pick of the West Indies bowlers was left-arm spinner Gudakesh Motie, who took two for 49, while pacers Osane Thomas and Shepherd also took two wickets on an encouraging day for the hosts.

For England, there were some encouraging signs, but Buttler said they would have to learn some lessons.

"I thought it was a fantastic bat-

cont'd on pg 23