

DR. WEBSON PREDICTS SIDS4 SUCCESS

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PM Gaston Browne on the platform with other regional leaders at the Forty-Sixth Regular Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, CARICOM which opened on Sunday. *Story on page 3.*

Local News



Amb. Webson: I am confident we will have a good conference

Antigua and Barbuda's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Dr. Walton Aubrey Webson, is brimming with confidence over the prospect of Antigua and Barbuda living up to expectations by hosting a successful Small Island Developing States (SIDS) 4 conference.

Dr. Webson's comments were made following the latest round of pledging engagements held in New York last week where the Government of India made a contribution towards the hosting of the conference of US\$300,000. That money is earmarked for specific expenses associated with the conference, according to Dr.



Dr. Walton Aubrey Webson Webson.

"Your presence at the event not only demonstrated your solidarity with Small Island Developing States (SIDS) but also showed your genuine interest in addressing our vulnerabilities and building resilience in the face of environmental, social

and economic shocks.

"SIDS4 is a pivotal moment, and your support for Antigua and Barbuda hosting this important conference has not gone unnoticed. Your participating in the SIDS4 Roundtable helped to create momentum and generate critical awareness of the is-

suces confronting SIDS," Dr. Webson wrote in a 'thank you' letter to the Indian Permanent Representative Mrs Ruchira Kamboj.

Coming out of last week's Roundtable, Ambassador Webson said he is now 'feeling very good' as things are now happening. "Everything is shaping up for a very good conference and I now feel the momentum is with us and we are moving forward to what is shaping up to be a successful engagement from May 27-30 here in Antigua and Barbuda," he stated.

Prior to the Roundtable, Dr. Webson said there were

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PM Gaston Browne with Dr. Didicus Jules of the OECS Secretariat



PM Gaston Browne with PM Keith Rowley of Trinidad and Tobago.

PM Browne leads delegation to CARICOM Heads meeting in Guyana

Prime Minister Gaston Browne is today in Guyana where he has joined his colleague Heads of Government for the Forty-Sixth Regular Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, CARICOM which opened on Sunday.

Upon departing for Guyana, Prime Minister Browne said that key issues of great importance to the region will be discussed at the four-day Meeting to include the serious humanitarian and security situation in Haiti and plans for the T20 Cricket World Cup that the region, including Antigua and Barbuda will host in June.

Prime Minister Browne who is accompanied by the country's Ambassador to CARICOM, Dr. Clarence Henry said that Heads will also discuss the Guyana-Venezuela border issue along with the Belize-Guatemala demarcation claim.

In addition, discussions will be held with Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva; President of the Inter-American Development Bank, Ilan Goldfajn; Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Saudi Arabia, Adel bin Ahmed Al-Jubeir and Minister of State for International Cooperation of the United Arab Emirates, Reem al Hashimy.

Other items on the Agenda are

Climate Change and Climate Financing, Report from the Prime Ministerial Sub-Committee on Reparations, update on the situation in the British Virgin Islands, Status of the Caribbean Court of Justice Trust Fund, Developments in the Middle East: Israel's Continued Bombing of Gaza and the Fourth International Conference on Small Island Development States to be held in Antigua and Barbuda in May.

Antigua and Barbuda's delegation to the CARICOM meeting also includes Foreign Service Officer Kurt Williams and Project Development Officer in the Office of the National Authorization Officer, Juray Roberts.

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two areas of particular concern for him; these are accommodation and volunteerism. However, following the meeting on February 15 at the American University of Antigua campus (venue for the conference) for persons interested in volunteering for

the conference, he is no longer concerned as hundreds turned up for the meeting.

On the issue of accommodation, the permanent representative said that too is shaping up.

"We will have a cruise ship in port to help with hosting the thousands of

delegates who will attend the conference. I am not in a position to say much at this time as they negotiations have reached a critical point," he added. The cruise ship to be leased is expected to be able to accommodate 1600-2000 persons.

On the question of trans-

portation, he said the Antigua and Barbuda Transportation Board has this under control as it will be working with the country's bus and taxi associations to transport delegates to and from the port as well as from the hotels and other areas of accommodation.

Dr. Cleon Athill resigns from the UPP

One of the female candidates who contested the January 18, 2023, general elections on behalf of the opposition United Progressive Party, Dr. Cleon Athill, has tendered her resignation from the party.

In her letter of resignation, Dr. Athill cites *'Problematic leadership style'* and the absence of a *'well-defined and articulated political philosophy'* as among the reasons for her departure from the political party.

General Secretary of the UPP, Sen. Shawn Nicholas, informed the party faithful by letter telling them of Dr. Athill's resignation. She provided no reasons for Dr. Athill's departure.

The letter from GS, Sen. Nicholas is published below followed by the letter from Dr. Athill.

Resignation of Cleon Athill

**Brothers and Sisters,
Please note that Sis. Cleon Athill has tendered her resignation from the Party.**

We take this opportunity to thank her for her contribution to the Party and offer our best wishes.

**Regards,
Sis. Shawn M Nicholas
General Secretary**

Shawn Nicholas
General Secretary
United Progressive Party
February 22, 2024

Dear Madam:
Greetings. Trust that you



Dr. Cleon Athill

are in the best of health and spirits.

It is with much sadness that I pen this advisory and even sadder that I am moved to a position to pen it.

About three years ago after much deliberation, and at the chilling exhortation of my eldest son, Tijani to be the change I wished to see, I answered the call to enter into electoral politics. I was excited to be part of the UPP's slate heading into the upcoming General election. I understood it as a call for me to make a difference, and I accepted it with a strong resolve and welcomed the UPP as the platform/machinery for that to happen.

I quickly set about the business of the campaign: gathered my team, did a SWOT analysis, defined campaign ethos, and developed and articulated the campaign strategic plan. Team Athill went about its business strategically. Its approach, the community engagement community empowerment approach, behooved us to adopt a new campaign style, aimed at bringing the community together instead of dividing it. I can say with-

out any fear of contradiction that we did manage to move the constituents beyond what was expected. The outcome of the election bore testimony to this.

The road though has not been an easy one. This is because I chose to engage in the political space differently and endeavoured to run a positive campaign. Over the course of the campaign, I heard that I had a different style, and it quickly became obvious that this so-called different style found no favour with the leadership of the party nor with the campaign management team. The party leadership

would be in a better position to elucidate its position and actions regarding this.

It is also apparent that this "style" continues to be an issue, and it will continue to be an issue because it reflects the essence of who I am, an epitome of my philosophy and theory of change. Further, this style appears to be antithetical to the UPP ethos. Consequently, the past three years of my association with the UPP and my involvement in the campaign have presented my most serious existential dilemma/challenge. It has caused me to question myself, politics, our political maturity, opposition ideology and mentality, partisan and tribal culture and so on... and I've seen how much of the game we play for politics undermines/ thwarts the forward movement of our

beloved country. I know we can do better. We can be better. Antigua and Barbuda deserves better.

With that said, I write to advise that I resign my position as caretaker and my association with the United Progressive Party.

I continue to be a champion for the changes that we talk about for the development of Antigua and Barbuda and for St Paul.

I wish to thank all those who believed in me, encouraged me, prayed for me, and journeyed with me over those last three years. They've provided a sounding board for sharing perspectives, and they've provided shoulders to lean and cry on. Thanks for helping me to know that a new way is indeed possible and strengthening my resolve to pursue it.

I believe in the collective power of our people to transcend the uncertainties of now. I believe in St Paul and its expressed desire to be better. And I continue to celebrate their expressed declaration that they are "no ordinary constituency".

Finally, I wish to thank the UPP for the opportunity to serve the way I did over the last three years. I wish however to highlight a few observations and urge the party to pay urgent attention to them if it is to stand out from among the pile of "all ah dem ah de same"

Problematic leadership
cont'd on pg 5

The tax on sending money overseas is going up from April 1, 2024

The government is moving to collect more tax revenue from people who utilize the money transfer businesses to send funds overseas.

The increase is covered

by the Money Services Business (Transfer) Levy Bill, 2024, which was approved by the House of Representatives on Thursday. The new act falls under the ambit of

the Tax Administration and Procedures Amendment Bill, 2024, which was also amended during the session.

Under the bill, the current tax of two percent that is pay-

able for sending money overseas will increase to five percent. The mover of the bill, Prime Minister and Finance Minister, Gaston Browne explained that significant amounts of money leave the country each year via the money transfer services.

The estimate for 2024, according to the prime minister is in the region of \$100 million. He said this is due to the high rate of non-nationals who live and work in Antigua and Barbuda and who routinely send money to family and others in their native lands.

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style and organizational culture: Leadership style and structure to reflect a more democratic and transformational approach

Poor support to branches: The support given to capacity building, particularly at the branch level

Divisive primaries: Revisit its position and practice viz a viz primaries as a way of choosing candidates. These tend to be divisive and disruptive.

Opposition mentality: Rethink its role

and function as opposition

Lack of philosophical grounding: A well-defined and articulated political philosophy and change theory that aligns with what is in the best interest of Antigua and Barbuda. All the very best to you as you continue to fine-tune the party for and in the interest of Antigua and Barbuda.

Respectfully

Cleon Athill, Ph.D.

Cc: Clarissa Christopher

Chair, St Paul UPP Branch



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Local News



A workshop on climate adaptation for livestock farmers opens today

A workshop designed to expose livestock farmers on ways to better protect their animals from the adverse effects of climate change takes place at the Antigua and Barbuda Hospitality Institute today (Monday February 26).

The workshop is a joint undertaking of the Ministry of Agriculture's Veterinary and Livestock Division and the UWI Climate Change and Health Leadership Fellowship.

Veterinary Officer, Dr. Nneka Hull James said the workshop will bring together approximately 40 livestock farmers as well as staff of the division to discuss areas of concern regarding climate change and



Dr. Nneka Hull James
its impact on the sector.

"We recognise that the hurricane season is often starting earlier and ending later as well as such issues as excessive heat and flooding that are associated with climate change.

"We want to expose our farmers to techniques to protect their animals from these events. How to set up proper drainage in the

event of flooding and ways to protect animals in cases of excessive heats are some of the areas of focus at the workshop," she explained.

Additionally, there will be a panel discussion involving the Director of NODS, Sherrod James, The Met Office, represented by Orville Paige, the Director of Agriculture, Gregory Bailey and National Specialist of Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture (IICA), Craig Thomas.

Chief Veterinary Officer, Dr. Tubal Edwards, will deliver the feature address at the opening exercises.

The range of livestock farmers in the country includes; poultry farmers

(layers and broilers), pig, cattle and goats and sheep.

The UWI Climate Change and Health Leaders Fellowship Programme forms part of a European Union (EU) funded 5-year project aimed at Strengthening Climate Resilient Health Systems in the Caribbean.

The project is being implemented by the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and is bringing together 5 main sub-regional partners (including the UWI) working across 16 countries.

The Project is aimed at improving climate and health systems, as well as human capacities, in the Caribbean.

Transitioning to a new horizon

The woman who served as Jamaica's Honorary Consul to Antigua and Barbuda, Dr. Onika Campbell, is leaving the post at the end of the month after four-and-a-half years on the job.

Dr. Campbell was first appointed in 2019 on a three-year assignment. However, her appointment was extended several times making it one and a half years of additional time she spent in the post.

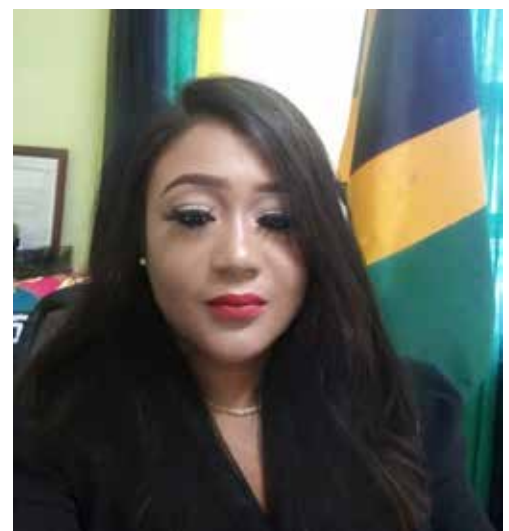
"It is with sincere respect and joy that I wish to inform you of the honour to have served the people and government of Jamaica particularly the diaspora living in Antigua and Barbuda for an extended period of four and a half years.

"As I transition into my new passion on the 1 March 2024. I wish to

thank the receiving state of Antigua and Barbuda, the various departments of government especially the Immigration Department's team who worked tirelessly to assist our nationals to regularise their status and the business community, the members of the Diaspora Engagement Group, the wider community and my team who held the line daily to assist in the 'Labour of Love' despite the myriad of challenges encountered," she said in a letter to the Jamaican community here in Antigua and Barbuda.

Dr. Campbell is taking up an assignment with the United Nations through its European office in Geneva, Switzerland.

There has been an outpouring of reactions from the local Jamaican community over the news of Dr.



Dr. Onika Campbell

Campbell's pending departure.

Many have thanked her for her assistance to them over the years, and they have all joined in wishing her much success in her future endeavours.

Festival Commission is meeting with key stakeholders next week

The National Festivals Commission is convening critical meetings next week with several of the key stakeholder groups for the annual summer festival, Carnival 2024.

In a media release, the Commission said meetings are planned with these groups starting on Tuesday March 5 when it meets with the executive of the Pan Association. The following day, Wednesday March 6, the Commission will meet with songwriters, artistes and arrangers. The final meeting of the week, will take place on Thursday March 7 with representatives mas bands; to include T-Shirt Mas, Marching Bands, J'ouvert bands, Cheerleaders, and Carnival

Monday and Tuesday Mas bands.

These meetings with the critical stakeholder groups are an indication that the planning for Carnival 2024 is moving to a higher gear with the national festival – Carnival – a mere five months away.

This year, Carnival is taking place against the backdrop of major international events taking place in Antigua and Barbuda months before it starts. These are the Small Island Developing States (SIDS)4 conference from May 27-30 and international cricket, the World T20 Cup with several matches slated for the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in Antigua in June.

NOTICE

Meeting Invitation to Carnival Stakeholders:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Monday 26th February 2024 – St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda. The Antigua and Barbuda Festivals Commission (ABFC) wishes to invite Carnival stakeholders to the following meetings:

Tuesday, March 05th Pan – (Pan Association Executive)

Wednesday, March 6th Soca – (Songwriters, Arrangers and Artists)

Thursday, March 07th Mas – (T-Shirt Mas, Marching Bands, J'ouvert, bands, Cheerleaders, Carnival Monday and Tuesday Mas)

All meetings will be held at the Ministry of Creative Industries, Old Parham Road, Upstairs INET at 5:30 pm sharp.

All concerned Carnival Stakeholders are urged to make a special effort to attend their respective meeting, as important factors influencing their discipline will be discussed and addressed.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Our client, Antigua and Barbuda Airport Authority is seeking to recruit and retain a suitably qualified individual for the position of **Chief Executive Officer**.

The core responsibilities of the **Chief Executive Officer** will be to lead, develop and execute the Authority's long-term strategy, all aspects of the day to day operation of the Authority and direct liaison between the Board of Directors and Management. The successful candidate will also communicate to the Board on Management's behalf, for public accountability of the Authority and ensuring that its legal obligations to the State of Antigua and Barbuda are met.

QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS

The ideal candidate should possess the following:

- ♦ A Master's degree in Aviation or Airport Business Management, Business Administration or related field from an accredited college or university;
- ♦ Professional certificate in Airport/Aviation Management would be a plus;
- ♦ Diverse experience in the aviation industry with sound airport operational knowledge;
- ♦ A minimum of ten (10) years senior management experience on a similar role at a small to medium size commercial airport;
- ♦ Experience with airport/aviation-related engineering and/or construction initiatives and projects;
- ♦ Proven knowledge of local laws governing and related to the Authority;
- ♦ Thorough knowledge of Aerodromes Policies, Procedures and Compliance Standards;
- ♦ Ability to formulate clear organizational goals for the Antigua and Barbuda Airport Authority and its programmes
- ♦ Comprehensive knowledge of the ICAO Annexes, associated parts and documents;
- ♦ Sound knowledge of National Aviation Safety Plan and Security Emergency Plans;
- ♦ Strong project management skills;
- ♦ Demonstrated ability to develop and motivate a robust team
- ♦ Competent in the use of MS Office Suite.

Candidates should also possess the ability to communicate effectively, be highly confidential, professional and capable of relating appropriately with individuals of various social backgrounds.

Compensation will be determined commensurate with the experience and qualifications of the successful candidate.

All applications must be submitted along with a **detailed Curriculum Vitae** no later than **March 28, 2024** to:

The Administrative Manager
 BDO Eastern Caribbean
 Cnr. Factory Road & Carnival Gardens
 P.O. Box 3109, St. John's
 Antigua

OR
 e-mail: sonia.gardner@bdoecc.com

Local News



Final arrival of the World's Toughest Row 2023

On Saturday February 24 at 17:04 local time in the historic Nelson's Dockyard, we witnessed the arrival of the last, but certainly not least, team in this year's World's Toughest Row.

They picked the perfect time and setting to make their final approach. The captivating Antiguan sun set as their backdrop and their two proud children cheering them on from the Fort Berkeley lookout. The married couple fought valiantly right up until the final oar stroke.

Arriving after 73 days, 12 hours and 3 minutes, team 'For Better Or Worse' were welcomed by the blaring sounds of super yacht sirens and roaring applause from the dockyard. Mark and Dani Jones undertook this phenomenal challenge to prove to their children that anything



A hero's welcome for the couple, Mark and Dani Jones., who were the last to complete the gruelling race

is possible! Not only did they come out a stronger couple, but some could argue they came out as supermom and dad!

The race this year sadly saw the tragic passing of dear fleet member, Alisdair Putt, the skipper of Australian team, Aussie Old Salts. His death, due to a cardiac event on 4th January 2024, sent shock waves throughout the entire fleet. Alisdair was a valued member of the fleet.

CEO Carsten Heron Olsen said, "The entire race is dedicated in the memory of Alisdair and a lot of thoughts go to, not only his team-mates, but also his family. Now we have the last boat in, it's always special to see the teams coming in, but it has been in the shadow of the circumstances of January 4th. Best of thoughts to the team and Alisdair's family."

This final arrival marks the end of, yet another mag-

ical journey embarked on by rowers, their families, the Atlantic Ocean, and the beautiful island of Antigua. The premier event in ocean rowing has seen its fair share of ups and downs this year, having experienced arguably some of the most confusing weather systems to date, with the most northerly and most southerly routes taken by the teams.

What has come out head-above-shoulders over everything is the brilliant experience of this amazing race by rowers and spectators alike. Some dubbing it the toughest endurance race on the planet! Antigua and Barbuda and its heart-warming people have this year, once again, played a wonderful host to the participants and their families and we very much look forward to being back next year!

Peetah Morgan, lead singer of Morgan Heritage, dead at 46

Peter "Peetah" Morgan, lead singer of the Grammy Award-winning Reggae band Morgan Heritage, has died at the age of 46.

The band, known for songs such as *Don't Haffi Dread (To Be Rasta)*, *Down by the River*, *Tell Me How Come*, and *She's Still Loving Me*, announced Peetah's passing on Sunday (February 25) but did not disclose the cause of death.

"It is out of sincere love that we share that our beloved husband, father, son, and brother and lead singer of Morgan Heritage Peter Anthony Morgan has ascended today," the Morgan

family wrote in a statement posted to Instagram. "Jah come and save from ourselves because love is only way."

"Our family thanks you in advance for your overwhelming love and support, and we ask your continued prayers as we go through this process. We also ask that you please respect our privacy during this time of healing."

In 2022, the family mourned the passing of its patriarch and veteran Reggae singer Denroy Morgan, who fathered 30 children.

Denroy's children formed several groups, including Morgan Heritage, which initially comprised Peter



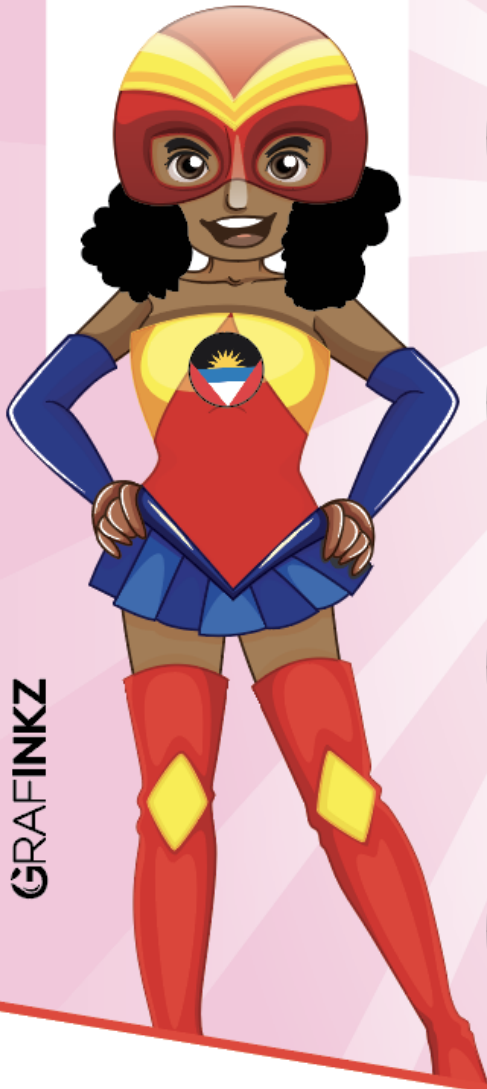
Peter "Peetah" Morgan
"Peetah" Morgan, Una Morgan, Roy "Gramps" Morgan, Nakhamyah "Lukes" Morgan, and Memmalatel "Mr. Mojo" Morgan.

Una Morgan and Lukes Morgan are now past members.

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Opinion



The game of the name

By Tony Deyal

I knew that my Jamaican friends referred to their country as the “Rock” and so we got “Jamrock”. What I didn’t know was that the present prime minister of Jamaica, Andrew Holness, liked being “Leggo di ‘Brogad’” based on a song “Custom” by Deejay Daddy1 who called himself a “top choppa”.

It is said that the PM not only embraced the name but, for a while, changed his Twitter handle to the “Most Hon. Brogad”. At least he didn’t take the name “Peas Head” (what Jamaicans call someone with a small, funny shaped head) or, like me, “Foota” when your feet are above a socially accepted size. I am 5’7” (short – not tall), and my sneakers had burst so I went to a store in MoBay (Montego Bay) and asked for a Size 12 Extra, Extra-large. This is my regular shoe-size and in Jamaica it made me not just a “foota” but the biggest and shortest footer the young lady who was trying to find a shoe for me had even seen. It didn’t take long for everybody in the store and people outside wanted to see this “Cassie Coolie” with the big foot.

That term “Cassie Coolie” is by itself a name-game. Unlike Trinidad and several other regional countries, Jamaica did not use the term “Coolie” to degrade anyone. But what about “Cassie?” First the context. The nick-

name of the Jamaica PM was nothing to the nicknames of the present Trinidad and Tobago (T&T) Prime Minister, Dr Keith Rowley. First, because of his unrelenting aggressiveness in the political arena and, some people say, elsewhere, he was known as the “Rottweiler”. However, because of his behaviour in Cabinet meetings, he was also called “The Raging Bull” by my secondary school colleague and prime minister, Patrick Manning. He was lucky. Because of my “crossed” eyes, while the Jamaicans called me “cassie”, from our first day in school Patrick called me “cokes”. Fortunately, despite my hair-loss, even when I taught communications to different groups, no Jamaican ever called me “Spermhead”. In terms of Caribbean leaders, the prime minister I liked most was Errol Barrow of Barbados. His nickname was “Dipper”, supposedly because of his awkward cricket batting style. Like many other people who heard my name “Tony”, he called me “Tones”. Fortunately, after about 30 years of my column in the Barbados Nation, I’ve never had to atone for my jokes about the country or its people, especially its prime ministers.

Unlike Caribbean leaders, Americans are different and one of the most recent ones, Donald Trump, uses nicknames to criticise, insult and derogate his rivals, me-



Tony Deyal

dia figures and even foreign leaders. He called his opponent in the 2016 election, Hillary Clinton, “Crooked Hillary”. He referred to Kim Jong Un, the North Korean leader, as “Little Rocket Man”. One of Trump’s early rivals, Jeb Bush, was “Low Energy Jeb”; Texas Senator, Ted Cruz, was “Lyin’ Ted”; another, a woman of native-Indian descent, Elizabeth Warren, was “Pocahontas”; and the man who won that election and might beat Trump again in the one coming up, Joe Biden, is “Crazy Joe”, “Slow Joe”, “Basement Biden”, and a first for even Trump, “Dumb Son of a Bitch”. Fortunately, Trump has not got off unscathed. Some of the nicknames given to him are “Donald Chump”, “Donald Dumb”, “Commander in Grief”, “Agent Orange”, “The Dumpster”, the “Human Corncob”, “Don the Con” and “The Dick Traitor”.

In looking at the two leaders and their responses to each other’s attacks, it is

clear that humour is a fickle beast. We might have a lot of fun at the expense of someone else but we also leave people feeling like deflated balloons or worse, wanting to beat the hell out of you. As we know, words have weight even when they’re supposedly jokes. As one expert in the “joke” field said, calling people “Bridbrains”, “Butter fingers”, “Numbskull”, “Captain Clueless” or “Pig headed” are all insults that can cause instant retaliation. The only thing that is worse in many Caribbean countries is to say something about a man’s mother. That has led to instant death in some places.

Dave Kenny, of the Irish Daily newspaper, believes that the habit of giving nicknames has been around a long time and can say a lot about the recipient – or not. He explained that he was introduced to a very scary-looking man in a pub and one of his friends advised him, “Whatever you

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do, don't call him by his nickname." Curious, he asked his friend, "What's his nickname?" The answer was, "Basin of Blood." After that Kenny called the man "Sir". Kenny then added, "A nickname can say a lot about a person. If he had been called 'Bunny', I wouldn't have felt the urge to hide in the loo." Kenny was convinced that men give nicknames as a way of being affectionate without compromising their masculinity. The American gangster, Al Capone, was "Scarface" and another gangster, Benny Siegel, was called "Bugsy", the gangster's slang for "going or becoming mental".

Siegel so detested the nickname that he "spilled blood" when it was used. Kenny also wrote about what he called "barf-infusing", the coupling of real names to create a nickname. His examples were referring to Ben Affleck and Jennifer Lopez as "Bennifer", Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie as "Brangelina", and the Kanye West/Kim Kar-

dashian marriage which recently ended as "Kimye". Even though "Tony" in Nigeria means "Royal Warrior", and in India "A handsome warrior prince", I stay far from this kind of combination because I know that my wife, Indranie, would hate being called "Tondran." Or since my "home" name was the Bengali "Shunun" (meaning "Hello" or "Listen") I am certain she would go back to Guyana if people started referring to us as "Shundran".

At least I am not the man whose girlfriend was devastated when she found out the reason why his nickname was "The Love Machine". He was terrible at lawn tennis. She might have preferred the guy called "Subway". He advertised six inches but had just a little less. There was the other one who got his wife to call him "Apple" because he could be all up in cider. Actually, one joke that a colleague shared with me is, "Me and my girlfriend have nicknames for each other; I call her 'thunder' and she calls me 'lightning'. She calls me

that because I always come first." Others come up with jokes like, "I used to date a girl name Ruth but she broke up with me and now, when it comes to women, I am Ruthless." This led to, "What about the girl lying on the beach?" Sandy. "And the lawyer, who gave his daughter the name "Sue". The offbeat one was, "What was Rihanna's nickname for Chris Brown?" The answer? Beats me! "On the other hand, what is the nickname of your printer?" Bob Marley because it's always Jammin'. My second best, "How do you get 'Dick' from the name 'Richard'?" You ask nicely. And my favourite, "What was the name of King Arthur's extra knight?" Sir Plus.

Tony Deyal's surplus for this article is the teacher who asked the student his parent's names and he replied, "My father is Laughing and my mother is Smiling." When the teacher asked, "Are you kidding?", he replied, "No. Kidding is my brother. I am joking."



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Business



Husband 'made over a million' by eavesdropping on BP wife

The husband of a BP employee has been charged with insider trading in the US following claims he overheard details of calls made by his wife while working from home.

The US Securities and Exchange Commission alleged Tyler Loudon made \$1.76m (£1.39m) in illegal profits.

The regulator claimed Mr Loudon heard several of his wife's conversations about BP's takeover of TravelCenters of America and bought shares in the firm.

BP has declined to comment.

The SEC said: "We allege that Mr Loudon took advantage of his remote working conditions and his wife's trust to profit from information he knew was confidential."

His wife - a mergers and acquisitions manager at BP - worked on the oil giant's takeover of TravelCenters.

The SEC said Mr Loudon purchased 46,450 shares of TravelCenters stock, without his wife's knowledge, before the deal was made public in February last year.

Following the announcement, TravelCenters share price rose nearly 71% and Mr Loudon allegedly immediately sold all of his newly-bought shares for a profit, the SEC said.



In a complaint by the regulator, during deal negotiations between TravelCenters and BP in 2022, Mr Loudon, of Houston, Texas, and his wife worked in home offices within 20 feet of each other.

"As a result, they frequently overheard and witnessed each other's work-related conversations and video conferences." She also worked on the deal when the couple stayed in a "small Airbnb" in Rome, said the complaint.

Mr Loudon confessed to his wife about buying the TravelCenters shares after the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority began asking questions about the BP deal and who was "in the know".

According to the filing, he said he bought the stock because "he wanted to make enough money so that she did not have to work long hours anymore".

His wife - who was "stunned by this revelation" - reported the trading to her supervisor at BP.

Her email and texts were reviewed by BP and it found no evidence that she knowingly leaked the information about the deal to her husband or knew he had bought the shares.

But "BP nonetheless terminated her employment," said the filing.

According to the regulator's complaint, Mr Loudon's wife moved out of the house and ceased all contact with him. In June,

she initiated divorce proceedings.

In a statement, the SEC said Mr Loudon did not deny the allegations and agreed to pay a penalty.

He also faces potential criminal charges and if convicted, could face a prison sentence.

During the pandemic, when many employees were unable to work in the office, UK regulator the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) warned about managing insider trading risks when working from home.

With working from home now cemented into many organisations working patterns, the FCA has said the "need for effective surveillance at all times" remained critical.

Commonwealth SG joins Caribbean leaders for regional meeting in Guyana

A team from the Commonwealth Secretariat, led by Secretary-General, Patricia Scotland KC, is in Guyana for the 46th Regular Meeting of the Conference of CARICOM Heads of Government.

This is part of a series of regional meetings that she is attending in preparation for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting later this year.

Among the issues to be discussed at the four-day CARICOM meeting are climate resilience, regional security, energy as well as nutrition and food security.

In Guyana, the Secretary-General will engage with Caribbean leaders directly and as a group. The Commonwealth Secretariat team will also update the leaders on upcoming ministerial meetings, special Commonwealth events and possible areas of assistance and collaboration.

There are three significant Commonwealth milestones this year. On March 11, 2024, Commonwealth Day will be celebrated, while in April, the Secretariat will start the commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the London Declaration that gave birth to the modern Commonwealth.

In October, the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) will be held in Samoa. It will be the first time that CHOGM will be held in a Pacific small island developing state.

Reflecting on the close relationship with CARICOM, the Commonwealth Secretary-General said:

“As a Caribbean person, every one of these meetings are like coming home to family. In particular, I am



Commonwealth Secretary-General, Patricia Scotland KC.

happy to be back in Guyana to attend this important summit. I look forward to rich discussions, hearing about areas of concern, and learning about recent successes. For us at the Secretariat, CARICOM is a strong and treasured partner.”

The Commonwealth Secretary-General added that it was an essential part of her role to be cognisant of the issues of the member states and to maintain close ties in order to fully support the work done on behalf of countries. Commenting on the upcoming Commonwealth summit in Samoa, she said:

“In October, we go to CHOGM as a united and committed collective. As we represent the views and carry out the directives of our member states, we are bound to listen to their concerns and visions for the future.”

The CARICOM meeting will begin on Sunday, February 25, 2024, and close on the 28.

Twelve of the CARICOM member

states are part of the 56 member countries of the Commonwealth. Earlier in February, she also participated in the 37th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union (AU).

Immediately following the CARICOM meeting, the Secretary-General will travel to Zanzibar for the biennial Commonwealth Law Ministers Meeting (CLMM), from March 4 to 8, 2024. Hosted by the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, the meeting will focus on the theme ‘Technology and Innovation: How digitalisation paves the way for the development of people-centred access to justice’.

The Commonwealth Secretary-General will also be in the Caribbean in April for the 35th Caribbean Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors’ (CARAIFA) conference in her home country of Dominica and the 4th International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS4) in Antigua and Barbuda in May.

Regional News



Police probe suspected murder of US sailors in Caribbean

CMC - Detectives from St Vincent and the Grenadines and Grenada on Friday combed a catamaran for evidence as they investigate the disappearance of two United States sailors.

The sailors, whose names have not been released, are said to have been aboard the yacht — “Simplicity” — when it was allegedly stolen in Grenada on Sunday and sailed to St Vincent overnight, allegedly by three escaped prisoners.

Officers from the Major Crime Unit and the Criminal Records office in Kingstown were joined by their Grenadian counterparts, including a forensic investigator, aboard the vessel that was anchored at the main Coast Guard base in Calliaqua, on the south Coast of St Vincent.

They were joined aboard by the three Grenadian prisoners — Ron Mitchell, 30, unemployed; Trevon Robertson, a 25-year-old farmer, and Atiba Stanislaus, 23, unemployed, all of Paradise, St. Andrew, Grenada — who investigators suspect might have killed the two sailors and disposed of their bodies.

Police said on Thursday that three prisoners who escaped lawful custody in Grenada were recaptured by police in Petit Bordel on the northwestern coast of St Vincent, the previous day.

Police said the men were



recaptured at about 4:35 pm (local time) during an operation by officers from Narcotics and Rapid Response units.

A source confirmed to the Caribbean Media Corporation (CMC) that one of the men was shot during his apprehension and was treated in hospital for his injuries.

Meanwhile, Caribbean Safety and Security Net (CSSN), which collects and disseminates information relating to crimes against yachts in the Caribbean, reported that a cruising catamaran that had been anchored off Grand Anse, Grenada, was found poorly anchored with a shredded jib off the coast of Wallilabou on the west coast of St Vincent on Tuesday.

“Upon inspection, it was

found that the yacht had been ransacked, and it was apparent a violent act had taken place. Copious amounts of blood were found in the master stateroom, and the two owners were missing,” CSSN reported.

The yacht’s dinghy was also missing but was later recovered and personal items of the occupants of the yacht were also missing.

However, passports found onboard the vessel allowed authorities to make contact with the victims’ emergency contact.

CSSN said the three men escaped from their holding cell in Grenada the day the yacht’s automatic identification system track moved from Grenada to St Vincent between Sunday night and Monday afternoon.

In a statement on Thurs-

day, the Royal Grenada Police Force said the three men who escaped their custody and were recaptured here were charged jointly with one count of robbery with violence.

Additionally, Ron Mitchell was charged separately with one count of rape, three counts of attempted rape, two counts of indecent assault, and causing harm.

“All three men were kept in the holding cell at the South St George Police Station and escaped lawful custody, on Sunday the 18th of February 2024.”

The Grenada constabulary said that collaboration with their regional counterparts here have led to the recapture of the three men.

“Preliminary information
cont’d on pg 15”

Ukraine war: Zelensky says 31,000 troops killed since Russia's full-scale invasion

By Kathryn Armstrong

Volodymyr Zelensky says 31,000 Ukrainian soldiers have been killed during Russia's full-scale invasion.

The Ukrainian president said he would not give the number of wounded as that would help Russian military planning.

Typically, Ukrainian officials do not make casualty figures public, and other estimates are much higher.

It comes after the defence minister said half of all Western aid for Ukraine has been delayed, costing lives and territory.

Mr Zelensky said on Sunday that he was providing an updated death toll in response to the inflated figures that Russia has quoted.

"31,000 Ukrainian soldiers have died in this war. Not 300,000 or 150,000, or whatever Putin and his lying circle are saying. But each of these losses is a great loss for us."



President Zelensky said he made the updated death toll public to counter Russia's inflated estimates.

Speaking about the wider losses in the war, Mr Zelensky said tens of thousands of civilians had died in the areas of Ukraine occupied by Russia but the true number was unknown.

"I don't know how many of them died, how many were killed, how many were murdered, tortured, how many were deported."

It is rare for Ukraine to

provide a military death toll, and other estimates suggest a much higher number.

US officials in August put the number of Ukrainian soldiers killed at 70,000 and as many as 120,000 injured.

In terms of Russian losses, Mr Zelensky said 180,000 Russian soldiers have been killed and tens of thousands more injured.

BBC Russian, in a joint

project with the Mediazona website, has established the names of more than 45,000 Russian servicepeople who had died. But it estimates the total number to be greater than that.

In February, the UK's defence ministry estimated that 350,000 Russian troops had been killed or injured.

President Zelensky's address came after his defence minister, Rustam Umerov, called out the country's Western allies for delays in military aid.

"At the moment, commitment does not constitute delivery," he said.

Ukraine is currently experiencing a variety of setbacks in its mission to drive

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tion emanating from investigators in St Vincent suggests that the three men made their way to St Vincent via a yacht which was docked in the St George area.

The RGPF is currently working on leads that suggest that the two occupants of the yacht may have been killed in the process.

It is believed that the occupants of the

yacht were American citizens."

The Grenada police said that the investigation is in its infancy stage and that they have dispatched a team of senior investigators and a forensic specialist to SVG in furtherance of this investigation.

"Commissioner, Don Mc Kenzie has ordered an immediate investigation into the circumstances of the escaped prisoners," the Grenada police said.

South Carolina primary: Donald Trump easily defeats Nikki Haley in her home state

By Sam Cabral

Donald Trump is one step closer to the Republican presidential nomination after a massive win over Nikki Haley in South Carolina.

The former president won his primary opponent's home state by a 20-point margin, his fourth consecutive victory.

As he celebrated, Mr Trump made no mention of Ms Haley, who vowed to stay in the race. Instead he set his sights on the general election in November.

That will be a likely rematch with his successor in the White House.

"We're going to look Joe Biden right in the eye," he told supporters minutes after US media projected him as the winner on Saturday night.

"He's destroying our country - and we're going to say 'get out Joe, you're fired'."

Mr Trump lauded his party's "unity" after Saturday's result, saying: "There's never been a spirit like this. I have never seen the Republican Party so unified."

It marked a shift from his response to last month's primary in New Hampshire,

where he raged against Ms Haley for "doing a speech like she won".

Ms Haley, who once served as a popular two-term governor of South Carolina, congratulated her opponent on his victory in her speech.

She promised not to quit, however, saying the roughly 40% of the vote she received was "not some tiny group".

"There are huge numbers of voters in our Republican primaries who are saying they want an alternative," she said, emphasising that her continued campaign was not about her own political ambitions.

"I'm not giving up this fight when a majority of Americans disapprove of both Donald Trump and Joe Biden," she added.

She has re-committed to staying in the race until at least Super Tuesday - 5 March - when voters in 16 states will cast their ballots on the same day.

"I'm a woman of my word," the former UN ambassador said. "We're headed to Michigan tomorrow, and we're headed to the Super Tuesday states throughout all of next week."

The Trump campaign dismissed Ms Haley's con-

cont'd from pg 15

Russia from its territory.

Mr Umerov said that the lack of supplies put Ukraine at a further disadvantage "in the mathematics of war".

"We do everything possible and impossible but without timely supply it harms us," he said.

Germany warned in November that a European Union (EU) plan to deliver a million artillery shells by March would not be met.

In January, the EU said just over half of these would reach Ukraine by the deadline and that the promised amount would not be there until the end of 2024.

President Zelensky said one of the reasons Ukraine's highly anticipated counter-offensive last year did not start earlier was the lack of weapons.

That counter-offensive largely failed - one of a number of setbacks

Kyiv has faced after some early successes in repelling Russia after it invaded in February 2022.

Mr Zelensky also suggested on Sunday that plans for the counter-offensive were leaked to Russia ahead of time.

Last week, it was announced that Ukrainian troops had withdrawn from the key eastern town of Avdiivka - Moscow's biggest win in months.

Mr Zelensky also blamed this partly on faltering Western weapon supplies.

The Biden administration, meanwhile, has said the hold-up in Congress of a \$60bn aid package for Ukraine contributed to the fall of the town.

Western leaders travelled to Kyiv on Saturday in a show of solidarity with Ukraine as the country marked two years since Russia's full-scale in-

vasion.

There, it was announced that Italy and Canada had signed security deals with Ukraine - bolstering support until the country could join Nato.

Canada's deal included more than three billion Canadian dollars (£1.7bn) in financial and defence aid.

It is not only Ukraine that is having trouble resourcing its military activities. Russia is also struggling to provide ammunition and weapons, according to Western officials.

"Russia's domestic ammunition production capabilities are currently insufficient for meeting the needs of the Ukraine conflict," a Western official claimed.

They added that Moscow has been able to increase its supply only by seeking out alternative sources of ammunition and weapons, which do not offer a long-term solution.

tinued effort in a statement on Saturday, stating that her “delusion is clouding her judgement, and she is no longer living in reality”.

It has predicted the former president will accumulate enough delegates to formally clinch the nomination within the next month.

Ms Haley does not have a clear path forward - her opponent has a large lead in the delegate count and is polling far ahead in all future contests.

And yet the Haley campaign is still standing, in large part due to contributions from deep-pocketed donors. That flow of cash has continued despite her facing long odds.

Ms Haley raised \$16.5m in January alone, campaign officials said.

That was her largest monthly total so far, and much more than Mr Trump's numbers.

To drive home the point that he believes the primary has now ended, Mr Trump wasted no time in making his victory speech moments after the race was called, not allowing Ms Haley to speak before him as she had done in New Hampshire.

Flanked at his podium on the Columbia state fairgrounds by nearly two dozen allies, including most of the state's political leaders, he told a raucous crowd: “This was a little sooner than we anticipated.”

Mr Trump certainly has much to boast about with this win. Exit polling conducted by the BBC's US



Nearly two dozen allies flanked Mr Trump during his victory speech after the South Carolina primary.

partner, CBS News, shows that the ex-president bested Ms Haley with both men and women, and among all age groups. He also drew strong support from white evangelicals and voters who identify as very conservative.

Thanking them for their support, Mr Trump, 77, reminded his audience: “We have a lot of work ahead of us.”

Andre Chang, 21, told the BBC that Mr Trump is still the only candidate willing to fight the establishment, particularly the “unelected political regime” of bureaucrats and technocrats that govern Washington DC.

“With the Democrats, it's like we're playing Russian roulette with a handgun,” the University of South Carolina senior said.

“Well Trump is a revolver. And I want to spin the barrel again.”

Mr Trump believes in “supporting the nation of Israel”, Noel Caldwell, 85, said.

“And not only that,

Trump did such a good job - we built up our military and he kept the border closed down and he kept inflation down. Now those things are no longer being taken care of by the administration,” the Lake Murray resident added.

Ms Haley failed to garner traction despite her home-field advantage because voters did not like “the way she has been criticising Trump”, according to Micah Rea, the national committeeman for the South Carolina Young Republicans.

He argued the writing is on the wall for her campaign and she should drop out for the good of the party.

Haley supporters, however, described their votes as taking action against “demagoguery” and the danger they believe Mr Trump poses to democracy.

“America always likes a great underdog, and I think she's got that,” said Sian Owens.

“Donald Trump is mired down. How much focus can

he give to our country with all these legal problems?”

The former president faces the first of four criminal trials next month.

He is also now on the hook for more than half a billion dollars, the combined total of two recent civil trial rulings against him in New York - one for sexual assault and defamation, and another for business fraud.

As Mr Biden racks up a sizeable cash advantage over him in what will likely be the most expensive presidential race in US history, Mr Trump is increasingly relying on donations to cover his soaring legal costs.

It appears the Republican Party could come to his aid. He has consolidated his hold over it by endorsing key allies to lead its national committee.

His daughter-in-law Lara Trump, his pick to take over as co-chair of the Republican Party, has pledged to “spend every penny” of party funds on his legal defence.

Sports News



English Harbour narrow gap on Second Division leaders

Former Premier League champions English Harbour have moved into third place on goal difference and narrowed the gap on leaders Freemans Village in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Second Division.

English Harbour ascended the Second Division table by coming from behind to grab a 2-1 win against Golden Grove at English Harbour in the latest round of matches.

Oshane Blackwood struck the winner in the 51st minute after his teammate Wayne Phillip had snatched the equalizer for English Harbour, as both teams were deadlocked 1-1 at halftime following Terrence Spencer's fourth-minute conversion that gave Golden Grove a one-nil lead.

Both teams finished the game with 10 men after the expulsion of two players in the latter stages. Nyique Baptise of Golden Grove and Yakira Hughes of English Harbour were dismissed in the 89th minute for violent conduct.

Their seventh win in 11 matches allows English Harbour to move from fourth to third place, advancing to 24 points, three adrift of leaders Freemans Village, who have a game in hand.

Golden Grove slipped to eighth place by remain-



Players of the English Harbour football team. (File photo)

ing on 18 points after suffering their fifth loss in 11 matches.

Bethesda slipped from third to fourth place after playing to a 1-1 draw with FC Master Ballerz at the Radio Range playing field in Ottos.

Following a goalless first half, O'Shale Simon gave Bethesda the lead with a 55th-minute conversion, but Master Ballerz drew level five minutes later via a strike by Shareem Richards.

Their second draw in 11 matches allows Bethesda to advance to 23 points, one behind English Harbour and two adrift of Sea View Farm in second place.

Master Ballerz moved into seventh place by advancing to 19 points from 10 matches.

Lingies CPTSA Wings

claimed their fourth win in 10 matches by recording a 2-0 win against Earthquakes at the Fort Road playing field in a contentious match, which had six players, three on either side, expelled for violent conduct.

Following a goalless first half, the Earthquakes' Akeil Thomas became the first player to be dismissed when he received a red card in the 64th minute.

The Wings capitalized on their one-man advantage to take the lead in the 75th minute, with Karanja Mack converting a penalty kick. Dorian Meade doubled the Wings' lead with an 83rd-minute conversion.

The match ended on a sour note when the referee expelled five players, who were given red cards in the fourth minute of added time

(90+4 minutes).

The players who were dismissed are Greg Munroe and Natto Silcott of Earthquakes, and Marques Gordon, Dejante Marshall, and Akeem Wilburg of Wings.

Earthquakes remained in fifth place with 19 points from 11 matches, while Wings advanced to 14 points from 10 games but will also remain in 13th place.

West Ham overcame a three-nil halftime deficit to salvage a 3-3 draw with Glanvilles at the Princess Margaret School playing field.

The result allows West Ham to stay in 15th place by advancing to eight points from 10 matches, and Glanvilles to remain in 16th place by moving to seven points from 11 games.

OCS and AGHS among winners in schools' volleyball

Ottos Comprehensive School (OCS) and Antigua Girls High School (AGHS) were winners in the girls' division in the latest round of matches in the Ministry of Sports Inter-Schools' Volleyball Championships.

Ottos Comprehensive School beat Christ the King High School 2-1, prevailing 25-10, 18-25, and 15-11 in their encounter at the indoor volleyball stadium at the YMCA Sports Complex.

Antigua Girls High School pulled off a 2-0 straight-set win against All Saints Secondary School, winning 25-4, 25-12.

All Saints Secondary also lost 2-0 against Pares Secondary School in

the boys' division. Pares Secondary won 25-18, 25-13.

Defending champion Island Academy claimed wins in both girls and boys' divisions.

Cup-holders Island Academy staved off a tough challenge from Sir Novelle Richards Academy to prevail 2-1 in their girls' division affair.

The Island Academy girls took the opening set 25-5, but Sir Novelle Richards Academy drew level by winning the second set 26-24, forcing the deciding third set, in which the defending champions prevailed 15-11.

But the second team at Island Academy had mixed fortunes in the

boys' division.

Island Academy II beat Sir Novelle Richards Academy in straight sets, winning 25-23 and 25-17.

However, Island Academy II lost in straight sets against the boys of Princess Margaret School, who prevailed 25-21 and 25-23 in a keenly contested affair.

The second team of Island Academy also enjoyed success in the Girls Development League. Island Academy II defeated Sir Novelle Richards Academy 15-8 and 15-9.

Antigua Girls High School II also prevailed 2-1 against Sir Novelle Richards Academy, winning 17-15, 11-15, and 15-11.



Sports News



Leewards Hurricanes claim second win in regional four-day championship

The Leeward Islands Hurricanes (LIH) claimed their second win of the Cricket West Indies (CWI) regional four-day championships when they beat the Trinidad and Tobago Red Force by four wickets at Warner Park in Basseterre, St Kitts, on Saturday.

Set 162 for victory after bowling Red Force out in their second innings for 342, Hurricanes got a top score of 53 from West Indies white-ball stroke-maker Keacy Carty, while 17-year-old Jewel Andrew missed out on his second fifty of the game with 48.

With the hosts in trouble at 26 for two, Carty put on 45 for the third wicket with Jahmar Hamilton, who made 29 from 38 balls, and a further 70 with Andrew for the fourth wicket, to put Hurricanes in touching distance of victory.

While Carty faced 136 deliveries and struck half-dozen fours, the Under-19 World Cup star Andrew, who captured the man of the match award, belted three fours and two sixes in an entertaining 53-ball knock. Left-arm spinner Khary Pierre claimed four for 69.

Resuming earlier from 285 for six, Red Force were undermined by left-arm spinner Daniel Doram, who snatched three of the last four wickets to tumble to finish with three for 80.

Scores: Trinidad and Tobago Red Force 137 (Jyd Goolie 30; Colin Archibald 3-28, Jeremiah Louis 3-38) and 342 (Jyd Goolie 64, Jason Mohammed 49, Tion Webster 38, Cephas Cooper 36, Terrance Hinds 34, Joshua Da Silva 34, Vikash Mohan 25, Bryan Charles 24; Rahkeem Cornwall 3-68, Daniel Doram 3-80, Jeremiah Louis 2-70).

Leeward Islands Hurricanes 318 (Jewel Andrew 87, Kieran Powell 65, Jeremiah Louis 41, Mikyle Louis 34; Anderson Phillip 4-62, Bryan Charles 3-81) and 165 for six (Keacy Carty 53, Jewel Andrew 48, Jahmar Hamilton 29; Khary Pierre 4-69).

The Windward Islands Volcanoes registered their third win on the trot, as they defeated Combined Campuses and Colleges Marooners by eight wickets, while the Barbados Pride and Guyana Harpy Eagles also secured wins in their respective third round regional four-day encounters on Saturday.

Set 125 for victory at Chedwin Park in Jamaica, the Volcanoes cruised to their target with West Indies batsman Alick Athanaze finishing unbeaten on a 58 off 42 balls.

Scores: Combined Campuses & Colleges Marooners 204 (Demario Richards 46, Damel Evelyn 43, Jonathan Carter 31, Shamarh



Jewel Andrew won the man of the match awards for the Leeward Islands Hurricanes against Trinidad and Tobago Red Force.

Brooks 29; Darel Cyrus 25-2-72-6, Gilon Tyson 3-32) and 315 (Jonathan Carter 94, Romario Greaves 63, Damel Evelyn 56, Zishan Motara 33, Sion Hackett 24; Shamar Springer 2-33, Kavem Hodge 2-48).

Windward Islands Volcanoes 395 (Kavem Hodge 158 not out, Sunil Ambris 120, Alick Athanaze 26; Romario Greaves 5-142, Jediah Blades 2-35, Edmond Govasta 2-54) and 128 for

two (Alick Athanaze 58 not out, Jeremy Solozano 42 not out).

At Sabina Park in Jamaica, Barbados Pride marched to their second win of the competition with a six-wicket victory over hosts Jamaica Scorpions. Chasing 173, Pride reached their target courtesy of 43 from Roshon Primus, 29 from Kevin Wickham and 25 from Shayne Moseley, off-spin-

cont'd on pg 21

Flyers get third win in ABBA's Division One League

The Flyers claimed their third win in as many games in the Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) Division I League on Saturday night.

Delonte Phillip scored 18 points and grabbed five rebounds as the Flyers beat the All Saints Slam 83-53 at the JSC Sports Complex.

Adonis Humphreys had 17 points, 14 rebounds, and six assists; Selassie Brathwaite produced 14 points, eight rebounds, and five assists; Donte Trimmingham contributed 11 points and eight rebounds;

and Xavier Meade chipped in with 10 points, 14 rebounds, and seven assists for the Flyers.

Keaddy Martin produced 19 points, five rebounds, and five assists; Kim Casey had 14 points, 10 rebounds, and six assists; and Judah Ferris chipped in with 13 points and seven rebounds for the All Saints Slam.

Flyers claimed their second win, flying past Spanish Heat 97-50 in a lopsided affair.

Selassie Brathwaite produced 18 points, nine rebounds, and six assists;

Javonte Daley also scored 18 points and claimed five rebounds; and Donte Trimmingham had 16 points and 11 rebounds for the Flyers.

Other teammates also give good support. Xavier Meade contributed 14 points and 11 rebounds; Kenya Achom produced 11 points and six assists; and Adonis Humphreys had 10 points, 15 rebounds, and six assists for the Flyers.

Steven Matthew converted 19 points and claimed five rebounds, and Coy Quinland scored 16 points, seven rebounds, and five blocked shots for

the Spanish Heat.

Northside Stingerz began their Division I campaign with a convincing 72-51 drubbing of All Saints Slam.

Keroi Lee had 18 points, 23 rebounds, and five assists; Kareem Edwards produced 18 points, seven rebounds, and six assists; and Devante Carter contributed 15 points, eight rebounds, and five assists for the Stingerz.

Keaddy Martin sank 12 points and grabbed six rebounds, and Ezekiel Francois scored 10 points and claimed eight rebounds for the All Saints Slam.

Lava Smoke Shop Lower Ottos Warriors snatched a narrow 78-76 victory against Wadadli Elite in a Division II encounter.

Javon Simon scored 21 points and snatched six rebounds; Ariel Quallis produced 15 points, 11 rebounds, and seven assists; Faisal Obeidat had 14 points, seven rebounds, and six steals; and Victor Osborne converted 12 points for the Ottos Warriors.

Devonte Carter produced 18 points, eight assists, and five steals; Shaheim Omarde sank 17 points and grabbed 10 rebounds; and Orion Seraphine scored 14 points for Wadadli Elite.

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ner Peat Salmon claiming three for 69.

Scores: Jamaica Scorpions 269 (Romaine Morrison 97 not out, Carlos Brown 40, Kirk McKenzie 40, Peat Salmon 24; Jomel Warrican 27.4-6-62-5, Jair McAllister 3-69) and 292 (Abhijai Mansingh 54, Derval Green 48 not out, Leroy Lugg 43, Kirk McKenzie 39, Carlos Brown 35; Shaquille Cumberbatch 5-46, Kevin Wickham 2-26).

Barbados Pride 389 (Kraig Brathwaite 142, Kevin Wickham 63, Shane Dowrich 44, Jonathan Drakes 31, Roshon Primus 22; Derval Green 4-78, Peat Salmon 3-94) and 176 for six (Roshon Primus 43, Kevin Wickham 29, Shayne Moseley 25; Peat Salmon 3-69).

Reigning champions Guyana Harpy Eagles completed an emphatic, record win at Coolidge Cricket Ground in Antigua. The Harpy Eagles wasted little time in picking up the last four CWI Academy wickets cheaply, to storm to a 221-run win – the fifth largest margin of victory by runs

for Harpy Eagles in the modern era of the championship.

For Harpy Eagles, it was also their first win of the campaign following a draw in their first game against Trinidad and Tobago Red Force and a heavy 273-run defeat to Leeward Islands Hurricanes in their second game.

Scores: Guyana Harpy Eagles 175 (Ronaldo Alimohamed 30, Matthew Nandu 28, Tevin Imlach 24, Kevin Sinclair 24; Joshua James 4-43, Johann Layne 2-27, Joshua Bishop 2-31) and 415 for seven decl. (Kevin Sinclair 165 not out, Kemol Savory 58, Kevlon Anderson 49, Ronaldo Alimohamed 31, Veerasammy Permaul 29 not out, Tevin Imlach 29, Tagerarine Chanderpaul 22; Ashmead Nedd 5-97).

Cricket West Indies Academy 162 (Rashawn Worrell 58, Joshua Bishop 51; Kevin Sinclair 4-45, Veerasammy Permaul 3-15, Gudakesh Motie 3-31) and 207 (Jordan Johnson 54, Carlon Bowen-Tuckett 34, Joshua James 26; Isai Thorne 4-49, Kevin Sinclair 2-30).

Antigua lose to Suriname in Concacaf U-20 qualifiers

Antigua and Barbuda's Benna Boys suffered a narrow 3-2 loss against Suriname in the second round of Group B matches in the Concacaf Men's Under-20 Qualifying Championships on Sunday.

Host Antigua and Barbuda made a poor start to the game but staged a late second-half fight back in the second game of a double header at the ABFA Technical Center.

Robinio Pinas gave Suriname the lead with a 16th-minute conversion, and DjaierPriyor scored a penalty kick in the fourth minute of added time in the first half to give the South American team a two-nil halftime lead.

Substitutes Eroy Gonsalves and Davian Gumbs came off the bench to bring Antigua and Barbuda back into the game as the home team showed some resurgence in the second half.

Gonsalves scored in the 69th minute to reduce the deficit, but midfielder Jereno Van Gom restored Suriname's two-goal lead by scoring his team's third goal in the 89th minute.

Gumbs scored Antigua



The Antigua and Barbuda Benna Boys starting XI against Suriname at the ABFA Technical Center on Sunday, February 25, 2024. (ABFA)

and Barbuda's second goal in the fifth minute of added time when he pounced to hit home after Suriname's goalkeeper Jahnilo Wiegel had parried the ball into his path after saving a penalty kick, which was taken by Antiguan midfielder and vice-captain Tyrik Hughes.

It was the first game for Suriname in the five-team Group B round-robin contest.

Antigua and Barbuda launched their campaign

with a convincing 4-0 victory against Guyana in the second game of an opening day double header at the same venue on Friday.

The goals came from Javauhn Parker in the second minute, captain Aiden Jarvis in the 16th, Christopher Douglas in the 18th, and Javauhn Jarvis in the 84th.

Group leaders El Salvador also dropped their first point in the competition when they were held to a

2-2 draw by Guyana in the opening game on Sunday.

The competition will continue with another double-header at the ABFA Technical Center on Tuesday.

Guyana will take on Suriname at 10:30 am, and Antigua and Barbuda will meet the Turks and Caicos Islands at 3 pm.

The winner of the group will advance to the Concacaf Men's Under-20 Championship in the summer.