

LIAT 2020 RECEIVES AOC!

Story on Page 3



The ABTA created a 'beach atmosphere' at the ICC T20 World Cup Cricket Match at Sir Vivian Richards Stadium on Sunday. *More photos on page 10.*

Local News



LIAT 2020 receives AOC!

The newly established LIAT 2020 airline, which is partially owned by the government and people of Antigua and Barbuda, has cleared one of the last hurdles standing in its way of commencing commercial flights.

Prime Minister Gaston Browne announced on Saturday that the airline received its Air Operator's Certificate (AOC) giving it the right to begin operating flights to other Caribbean destinations.

"I am pleased to announce that LIAT 2020 has received its Air Operator's



Certificate," he reported to applause from panelists on the Browne and Browne show on Point FM.

Despite his joy over the acquisition of the AOC after what has turned out to have been a lengthy process, the

prime minister however expressed his frustration with the delays from the Caribbean- *cont'd on pg 3*

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Opening of new Barbuda airport, issuing of lands expected in two weeks

There have been two major announcements by the government related to developments taking place on the sister island of Barbuda with one being the opening of the new airport for commercial and other flights expected to happen within a matter of weeks.

According to Prime Minister Gaston Browne, the final approval for the opening of the airport is near at hand with only 'minor administrative and other matters' needing to be resolved before the final go-ahead is given to commerce operations.

"There is one physical

thing that needs to be done; that is the installation of the weather system at the Barbuda airport which will arrive on Monday (today), so, we expect that within two weeks we should be able to open the Barbuda airport," he announced.

PM Browne said there will be much fanfare for the opening with two LIAT aircraft, Calvin Ayre Helicopters as well as the ABDF's Air Force One and Two all expected to take part in the first official flights into the airport. "I have also asked Jean Paul Dejoria and Mike Melman to fly down their private jets for the grand



Prime Minister Gaston Browne

opening. We are going to have a big 'bang' for the opening of the airport in Barbuda," he declared.

On the issue of lands on Barbuda, the prime minister reported that the government is close to completing the adjudication process and should be in a position within a matter of weeks to be able to begin issuing land certificates on the island.

"The first area where we will start to issue lands is in the Louis Hill area. The Cabinet has instructed

that the lands be surveyed. I must state here, that when we come over to Barbuda in a few weeks, we plan to issue the first acre of land to a gentleman, former member of parliament, Arthur Nibbs for \$1.00," he revealed.

Over the past year and more, the government has carried out aerial and other surveys of the lands of Barbuda and as well as the creation of a Land Registry which will form part of the Land Registry of Antigua and Barbuda.



cont'd from pg 2

an Development Bank to approve the sale agreements for the three aircraft for which it has the lien.

"You wouldn't believe what the hold-up is now; the government of Antigua and Barbuda had placed US\$12.1 million in escrow to purchase the three aircraft and what is holding us now is that the CDB has been vetting the sales agreement for over a month. I don't understand why a sales agreement takes so long to vet; yet when you call them out, they get all 'cut up' and vex," he noted.

He explained that the bank has seen

the sales agreement before but which has had some amendments. Even so, PM Browne believes that it is too lengthy a time for the bank to spend 'vetting' a sales agreement.

"I have been messaging the acting president, Isaac Solomon, daily as I have been following up on it. I just hope that it doesn't go beyond this week as I am hoping that everything will be wrapped up by then," he declared.

PM Browne wants the sale of the three aircraft completed as soon as possible because the airline has had to lease the same aircraft for an exorbitant amount of money.

"We have had to enter into a lease arrangement with the administrator of LIAT (1974) Ltd., to lease one of the planes US\$100,000.00 with an additional \$95,000.00 maintenance agreement. So, when they stay so long to approve the sale, it is costing us much money. I plan to report to the people of Antigua and Barbuda next week about developments in this sector," the prime minister emphasized.

"I want to see if they will allow this matter to drag on for another week, because I don't know that a sales agreement is so complex," a clearly frustrated PM Browne observed.

Yachting sector stakeholder consultation planned

The government wants to focus more attention on the important yachting sector, now that it has made significant strides in the other sectors of tourism, stay-over visitors and cruise passengers.

Making the announcement, Prime Minister Gaston Browne said the intention is to undertake a complete revamping of the yachting sector, which he noted is a very important sector of the overall tourism industry given that comparatively, the spend surpasses that coming from cruise tourism.

“We have had more

overnight tourist this year so far, than we have ever had in our history. Our numbers by the end of the year will certainly surpass those for 2019, the year of record arrivals. Our cruise tourism is also doing well and it is on track to set new records as well. So, the next area for us to tackle is the yachting sector,” PM Browne told the nation while speaking on the Browne and Browne Show on Saturday.

He said the government is looking at ways to revamp the sector as well as to take a look at the ancillary services to see how these may be improved as well.



“I have asked our colleague, Senator Phillip Shoul, the chairman of the National Parks Commission, to convene a meeting of stakeholders within the upcoming weeks so that we can discuss how will can carry out this revamping of the sector,” the prime minister reported.

He also mentioned that there have been suggestions made to the government to make the entire English Harbour area a duty-free zone, and while this is under active consideration, he is not yet in a position to make a definitive announcement on that.

“I am favourably disposed to the idea, but I can’t make any formal announcement on it until such time as the Cabinet makes a decision.

“However, that is one of the things that we may need to discuss to see if that in itself can help to make our yachting sector more attractive,” he stated.

According to the prime minister it is important to

keep the yachts here in Antigua and Barbuda for longer periods of time and in this way, perhaps over time, it will eliminate the seasonal nature of the yachting sector. “If we can keep the yachts here beyond the customary December to April period, then it means that restaurants can stay open longer, our people would be employed for longer with year-round rather than seasonal employment and clearly, that sector would contribute even more to the economy of Antigua and Barbuda,” he suggested.

The prime minister revealed that already discussions are ongoing with the Parliamentary Representative, Foreign Affairs Minister, E.P Chet Greene, Parks Commissioner Ann-Marie Martin as well as with Tourism Minister, Charles Fernandez and Health Minister Sir Molwyn Joseph on plans to upgrade the entire national park. This would include many of the ruins that lie within the park, including those at Shirley’s Heights.



Antigua Masonry Products Ltd. is seeking a suitable and qualified person for the following position: **BATCHER**.

Job Functions:

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- Communicate with customers in a timely manner.
- Demonstrate a continuous effort to improve operations, reduce turnaround times and streamline work processes.
- Work independently and collaboratively with other team members to achieve common objectives.

Qualifications & Skills:

- Must have a valid driver’s license
- Minimum 2 years’ previous experience within a similar field
- Computer literate
- Multi-tasker and ability to work in a team environment
- Excellent customer service

Interested persons should send their application to hr@amp.company no later than **Friday 14th June, 2024**. Only suitable applications will be acknowledged.



Major upgrades for Sir Vivian Richards Stadium

With ICC T20 World Cup cricket fever affecting Antigua and Barbuda, the government has expended millions of dollars to upgrade the Sir Vivian Richards Cricket Stadium in time to host the cricket.

All told, there are six matches scheduled to be played at the stadium, the first took place on Sunday between Scotland and Oman. Three more matches are slated for this week with Antigua

and Barbuda down to host four of the matches in the ‘Super Eights’ segment of the tournament. With the huge television audience that these matches have been attracting, the government took the opportunity to invest several millions of dollars to upgrade both the stadium as well as the Antigua Recreation Grounds ahead of the matches.

Sports Minister, Daryll Matthew revealed that the government spent \$2.5

million upgrading the stadium to include lockers, the media centre, the electronic display, the stands and other areas of the facility. Then government also spent an additional \$500,000.00 on the ARG where teams participating in the tournament will utilize as a practice venue.

The work on upgrading both facilities was carried out by the Ministry of Works headed by Minister Maria Vanessa Browne.




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Evangelical Alliance takes firm stance against attack on abortion laws

The following statement has been issued by the Antigua and Barbuda Evangelical Alliance

“It has come to our attention that a lawsuit challenging the validity of the nation’s laws on abortion has been filed in the High Court of Justice. Currently, the laws of Antigua and Barbuda make it a criminal offence for a woman to terminate or attempt to terminate a pregnancy. In addition, any person who assists another to abort a pregnancy could also face criminal charges.

“The lawsuit follows similar challenges mounted in the nations of Trinidad and Tobago and the Commonwealth of Dominica. In both instances, the wider public was only made aware when the matters came up for arguments before the courts in those jurisdictions. Similarly, the claim in Antigua and Barbuda has been filed seemingly without prior effort to engage the government or the people of this country.

“The lawsuit which was filed by a local medical practitioner and others and names Attorney General, Hon. Sir Steadroy Benjamin and Minister of Health, Hon. Sir Molwyn Joseph as respondents and seeks to have

the related laws quashed because they infringe upon a woman’s right to determine what happens to her body.

“The Antigua and Barbuda Evangelical Alliance wishes to place on record our OBJECTION/OPPOSITION to the agenda of international entities and interests that seek to engage in the erosion of our moral code as a nation and a region under the cloak of advancing human rights.

“We therefore urge the government to resist the lawsuit and to do all that is possible NOW to undergird the people’s collective preference for the preservation of life, the retention of our moral integrity and our Godly consciousness, even for the generations to come.” End.

As a responsible publication, Point Express newspaper reached out to Attorney General, Sir Steadroy Benjamin, who revealed that whilst he has heard of the lawsuit, it has not been formally filed at his chambers. He said the matter of abortion is not something to which the government has yet addressed its mind as it awaits the lawsuit being filed and deliberations by the Cabinet before a position or an announcement is made.

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Escaped prisoner recaptured

39-year-old Brodah Wanlov of Villa is expected to appear in court this week after he was recaptured and later charged for escaping lawful custody at HM Prison.

Wanlov reportedly escaped from HMP on May 27 but his time on the run was short-lived as he was recaptured the following day.

Following his recapture, the escapee was slapped with the additional charge of malicious damage for causing damage to the prison wall.

Meanwhile, police arrested 42-year-old Donna-Hue Brown of Yorks and laid three drug-related charges against her; for unlawfully having in her possession 3½ pounds of cannabis; possession of cannabis with intent to transfer, and being concerned with the supplying of cannabis.

She was taken into custody on Thursday, June 6, after police executed a search warrant on her property and found the controlled substance. She too, is expected to appear in court this week.



Antigua Masonry Products Ltd. is seeking a suitable and qualified person for the following position: **REDI-MIX CONCRETE TRUCK DRIVER.**

Job Functions:

- Perform pre and post-trip check daily to ensure safety and working of the truck
- Documenting any maintenance as required
- Driving truck to job site and unloading
- Assembling concrete chute and attaching chute to truck back
- Protecting truck using protective compound and performing minor maintenance task
- Washing and cleaning of trucks or equipment used in the concrete production line
- Backing truck under loading hopper and starting the mixer to get concrete

Qualifications & Skills:

- Must be able to operate truck and its auxiliaries such as levers, chutes and mixing drums efficiently
- Have a good understanding of mixing procedure and knowledge of adjusting the mixing speed
- A valid truck driver's license
- Have at least 2 years' truck driving experience

Interested persons should send their application to hr@amp.comany no later than **Friday 14th June, 2024**. Only suitable applications will be acknowledged.

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Minister of State in the Ministry of Health, Wellness Social Transformation and the Environment Senator Hon. Samantha Marshall's 2024 Hurricane Season Statement

Residents of Antigua and Barbuda we have now entered the official hurricane season of 2024 which is anticipated to be an extremely active season.

On the heels of the recent SIDS 4 meeting within Antigua and Barbuda and based on observations globally, the effects of climate change and the increasing frequency and intensity of natural disasters, to include seismic events, are matters of grave concern.

It is crucial that we understand the gravity of the

situation and recognize the importance of preparing ourselves for these events and seasons.

The Caribbean, with its beautiful islands and vibrant communities, is particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

Rising sea levels, increased temperatures and changing weather patterns have already begun to wreak havoc on this region. Hurricanes, tropical storms, and flooding have become more frequent and destructive leaving behind a trail of devastation and

hardship.

The consequences of these natural disasters are far reaching – lives have been lost, homes destroyed and communities left struggling to rebuild and recover.

The economic impact is also significant with infrastructure damage, disruption to tourism and loss of livelihoods. The effects of these events can be felt for years, if not decades, after they occur.

In fact, the devastating impact after Category 5 Hurricane Irma to Barbuda still lingers freshly in our minds.

The recent effects of Tropical Storm Phillippe and Hurricane Tammy last year are reminders of the various hazards that lie within these dangerous systems as flooding became a major concern within many of our communities.

I therefore urge everyone to be prepared. Be prepared by having your emergency plans and by staying informed via credible sources of information.

It is incumbent that all of us continue to be our neighbour's keeper. Check on your neighbours, get to know their plans for the season, and assist wherever necessary.



Samantha Marshall

Do remain tuned to credible sources of information throughout the season. Information from our local meteorological office disseminated via state media - ABS Television and Radio and of course NODS, and our local media partners are indeed credible sources. Misinformation or disinformation can cause panic and fear, which could undo our efforts to be prepared.

The government stands ready and committed, ensuring that the necessary resources are in place to mitigate the outcomes of a storm striking us directly or indirectly.

So once again, I ask of you to ensure that your level of preparedness is given your utmost attention now. Prepare yourselves, prepare your families, and your communities. I thank you.



Antigua Masonry Products Ltd. is seeking a suitable and qualified person for the following position: **EXCAVATOR OPERATOR.**

Job Functions:

- Operate a large excavator to complete daily production targets
- Load dump trucks, move materials in quarry, level out quarry areas
- Making quarry areas safe
- Maintain cleanliness of machine
- Identify and report safety issues and hazards
- Complete pre-start checks
- Look for areas of improvement or streamline work procedures
- Must comply with company, and governmental health and safety regulations, policies, and procedures at all times
- May be called upon to run other heavy equipment such as but not limited to Dozer and Loader, dump truck
- Work independently and collaboratively with other team members to achieve common objectives.

Qualifications & Skills:

- Must have a valid driver's license
- Must be able to safely and effectively operate an Excavator and or other heavy duty equipment
- Minimum 2 years' experience driving and operating an Excavator

Interested persons should send their application to hr@amp.company no later than **Friday 14th June, 2024**. Only suitable applications will be acknowledged.

Venezuelan Embassy donates to pre-school

The Venezuelan Embassy, through its Ambassador Carmen Velasquez has made a donation of school supplies to the Simon Bolivar Preschool, located within the Simon Bolivar Park on the St. Johnson's Village Main Road.

The school's supervisor, Onecia Browne said the provision of school stationary items, including water bottles, school bags, and books, will significantly benefit the young learners.

"These essential supplies will enhance the educational experience of our students, fostering a more



Venezuelan Ambassador, Carmen Velasquez with Simon Bolivar Pre-school Supervisor, Onecia Browne

engaging and resourceful learning environment.

"On behalf of the entire

community, we humbly accept the donations. We are deeply appreciative of this thoughtful contribution, which underscores the importance of supporting early childhood education," Browne stated.

In response, Ambassador Velasquez said the embassy stands ready at all times to assist wherever it can. "For us it is a great pleasure to support and help the early childhood education in Antigua and Barbuda, specially our beloved Simón Bolívar Preschool. The kids are the present and future of this nation, and they can always count on Venezuela!" she added.

Two young people conclude internship with ABEC

Two students from Antigua State College' (ASC) have completed an internship programme at the Antigua and Barbuda Electoral Commission (ABEC). It was the first time that ABEC was participating in the Internship Programme executed by ASC.

In a release, ABEC said for the past six (6) weeks, the two students from the tertiary institution's Business Department, Kiyana Edwards and Chani Martin, were attached to ABEC's Public Relations Department and Secretariat respectively.

From April 22nd – June 2nd, both young women were actively involved in carrying out a variety of assigned functions in the departments.

In a gesture of goodwill and well wishes, ABEC presented Edwards and Martin with a token of appreciation and a creative Certificate of Participation during an informal ceremony.

ABEC's Deputy Chairman, Eugene Francis and Supervisor of Elections, Ian Hughes collectively ex-



pressed that ABEC is pleased to further broaden its scope and provide an environment for the interns to gain hands-on experience in a professional atmosphere while at the same time learning pertinent details about the roles and functions of ABEC and the electoral system.

Public Relations Officer, Elisa Graham, noted that both young ladies were very willing and eager to learn and added that the programme fits



well with ABEC's overall thrust to educate and sensitize the public about its operations. She added more specifically, that ABEC is also pleased to play a critical role in molding young minds, since the understanding of the entire democratic process begins with our youth.

Both interns expressed their overall excitement and satisfaction with their experience at ABEC.

Permanent Secretary, Ambassador Anthony Liverpool transitions to new role

The staff of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as well as members of the Diplomatic Corps joined family and friends of Permanent Secretary in the Ministry, Anthony Liverpool at a special function on Friday to mark his retirement from the position.

Foreign Affairs Minister E.P Chet Greene described Ambassador Liverpool as someone on whom he has come to rely when faced with the many thorny issues of international relations and Antigua and Barbuda's position on these issues.

He said when he joined the Ministry in 2018, he knew nothing about foreign affairs, and that it was Ambassador Liverpool who helped him to navigate this important aspect of a nation's relationships with all countries, friendly and otherwise.

Chief of Staff in the Office of the Prime Minister, Ambassador Lionel Max Hurst, read a letter addressed



to Amb. Liverpool penned by Prime Minister Gaston Browne thanking him for his many years of service to the nation in the area of foreign service. He also expressed the hope that he would be able to call on Liverpool in the future for counsel on matters concerning international affairs.

The function was held at the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in St. John's and hosted by Ambassador Zhang Yanling and her staff and she expressed delight with the manner in which Ambassador Liverpool has conducted the many

interactions with her and her staff.

Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, Venezuelan Ambassador Carmen Velasquez, also spoke fondly of working with Liverpool and his professional approach to his job.

The function was also addressed by Non-Resi-

dent Ambassador Dorbrene O'Marde, a friend, business colleague, who along with Amb. Liverpool spent many years in theatre as well as working among the civil society organisations both in Antigua and Barbuda and across the Caribbean.

Amb. O'Marde is the currently the Chairman of the Antigua and Barbuda Reparation Commission with Ambassador Liverpool serving as its Deputy Chairman.

While, Ambassador Liverpool is retiring as permanent secretary, he will be taking up an appointed as Special Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

ABTA creates 'beach atmosphere' at ICC T20 World Cup Cricket Match at Sir Vivian Richards Stadium

Antigua Barbuda FESTIVALS COMMISSION

NOTICE

CARNIVAL VENDORS MEETING:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - THURSDAY 06th June 2024 - St. John's, Antigua.....
Carnival-Is-Calling ALL VENDORS and BOOTH OPERATORS who wish to conduct business during the 2024 Carnival celebrations at Carnival City, Las Vegas, and Independence Avenue. There will be an important meeting on Wednesday, June 12th, at the Multipurpose Cultural Centre in Perry Bay, starting at 5:00 p.m. It is crucial for vendors and booth operators to arrive on time, as the meeting will begin promptly at 5:00 p.m.

All beverages **MUST** be served in plastic or foam cups as required by the authorities. Additionally, it is important to note that grills must not be operated without a properly certified Fire Extinguisher. Failure to comply with these regulations will immediately revoke the vendor's license.



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Opinion



Prime Minister's intervention needed

By Aviator

Prime Minister Gaston Browne needs to put his negotiating expertise to work in helping save the last remnant of LIAT as we knew it, for the true inheritors, CAS laid-off workers, and current staff.

Caribbean Airports Services Ltd. is 70-plus owned by LIAT with the minor shareholder Massey (Barbados) now transferring their shares to another

Barbados company.

In the same way that the Barbados shareholding has been maintained, in like manner, the Antiguan and Barbudan shareholding must be maintained. Further, with the ongoing impasse with the LIAT (1974) severance, the Hon. Gaston Browne is urged to use his skills to keep CAS Antigua.

The same commitment where he refused to have

our Scotia Bank's business go outside of Antigua, and his earlier demands, where, with the help of Global Bank of Commerce, Antigua was able to keep the profitable WIOC under Antigua and Barbuda's control.

The opportunity exists where the staff of CAS have approached the Government, which owns the majority shares, to do a deal with their severance,

shares, and granting management control of the Ground Handling operation.

Further negotiations for the handling of LIAT 2020 and later Air Peace must also be on the table.

The government has worked and delivered. Antiguan and Barbudan must inherit!

LIAT has been the main engine of Caribbean integration, fusing all of the islands, cooperating with the French, Dutch, American and our sister Caricom and OECS territories as one region.

The culture of LIAT has always been inclusive, Caribbean united, and always growing in survival mode, which are all ensconced in the LIAT family values, still alive and willing to continue.

The valiant fight put up by Antigua and Barbuda, and in particular the Prime Minister, has taken us to the heights of promises and praise, and the depths of despair as the last LIAT flight was grounded in St. Vincent, one of its first voices of doom.

If anyone can save CAS for its staff and Antiguan and Barbudan ownership, it certainly is Hon. Gaston Browne, who did it in the banking crisis, and the acquisition of WIOC!

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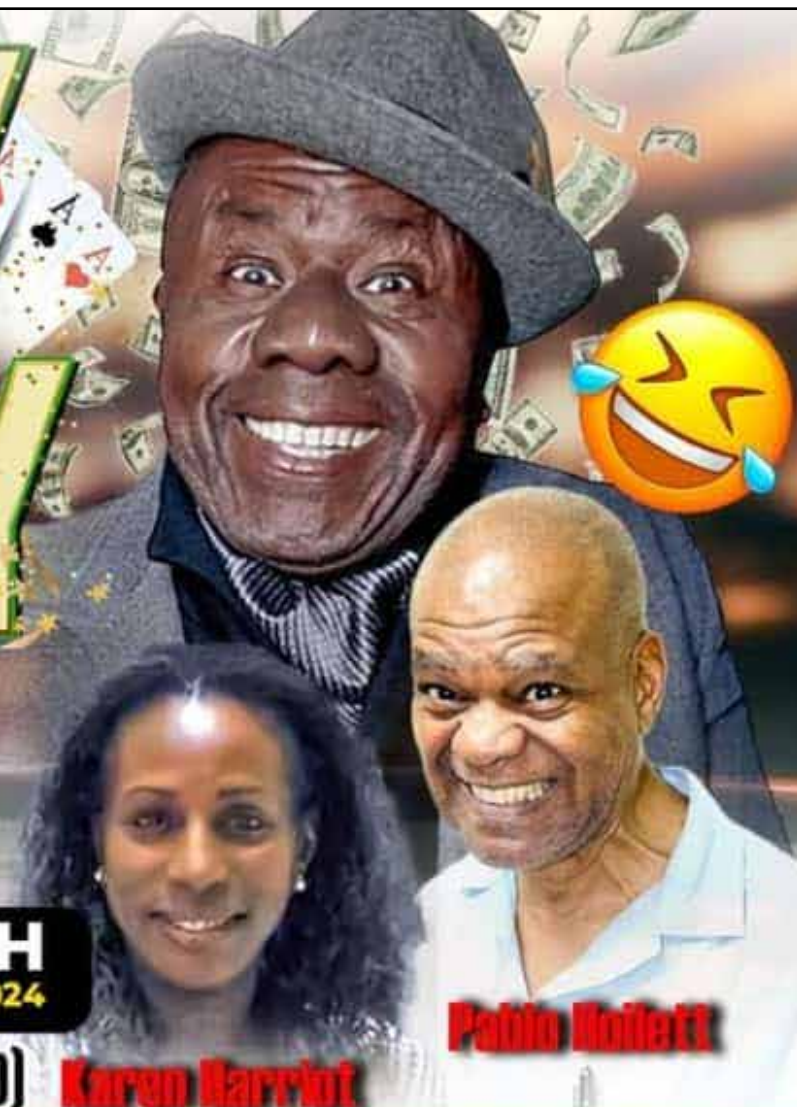
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AFTER PARTY FEAT: **KUTTIN EDGE BAND**



Opinion



The number is 93

By Tony Deyal

Ten years ago, when I was 69, my friends had a ball making fun of me. My bawling back at them only made it worse.

They hit me with the Mighty Sparrow's song, **Number 69**, especially the chorus: "The customer's always right and to please you is my delight/ I am here to entertain, I ain't want your money in vain/ But if you really want good performance/ I ain't believe in a one-sided romance/ You got to make up your mind,/ meh number is 69". In less than two months from now, I will be 79, but 69 hasn't left me. However, what I now experience is not the up/down, round and found, but the one that put **Patrick In Trouble**.

According to the calypsonian Andrew Haywood (known as 'Hawk'), "Ah sorry for him/ But he is to blame./ He used to boast/ About the dame./ He used to say/That she was divine/ But poor Patrick./ Brother, well he take a six for a nine!"

That, too, will pass away and, in its place, we will have 93. The Australia-born Rupert Murdoch, whose media empire includes **The Wall Street Journal**, Fox News, and about US\$20 billion, got married last Saturday.

It happened at Murdoch's vineyard estate in

Bel Air, California and, for me, it was the vine of astonishment. Given that this was Mr Murdoch's fifth marriage, would he have time for a six, or is he taking a six for a nine, even though he is one short?

I was thinking about what an 80 year-old lady, who had just married for the fourth time, told the media. One interviewer asked her questions about her life, about what it felt like to be marrying again at 80, and then about her new husband's occupation.

"He's a funeral director," she answered. "Interesting," the newsman thought to himself. He then asked her if she wouldn't mind telling him a little about her first three husbands and what they did for a living. She paused for a few moments, needing time to reflect on all those years.

After a short time, a smile came to her face and she answered proudly, explaining that she had first married a banker when she was in her 20s, then a circus ringmaster when in her 40s, and a preacher when in her 60s, and, now - in her 80s - a funeral director.

The interviewer looked at her, quite astonished, and asked why she had married four men with such diverse careers. She smiled and explained, "I married one for the money, two for the show, three to get ready,



Tony Deyal

and four to go."

I hope that she does not go for a fifth like Murdoch, since, according to the Bible, "And the Lord said unto John: 'Come forth and you will receive eternal life'." But John came fifth and won a toaster. Who knows whether he will hit a six or become toast in the hands of his new wife.

The first of Murdoch's wives was an Australian flight attendant who either took flight or was thrown off the plane in the 1960s when he divorced her.

He and his second wife, Anna Tory, a newspaper reporter, lasted 30 years and then he dumped her (or she dumped him) in 1999.

His third marriage to Wendi Deng was okay, but that ended and he moved on to model Jerry Hall, formerly the long-time partner of (appropriately) Rolling Stones frontman Mick Jagger.

But that was Deng and then Jerry had to Hall her

whatever because, last year, Mr Murdoch announced his engagement to a "dental hygienist-turned-conservative radio host Ann Lesley Smith.

However, he called it off after a month. In other words, 30 days have September, April, June and Ann. His 'new' wife, Elena Zhukova, a Russian, was married and divorced twice so far and, as one comedian said, is climbing up a three.

I am sure that the relationship will go beyond 69 and the new Mrs Murdoch would not respond like the wife whose husband asked her, "Hey, honey, how about a 69 tonight?" She made it clear, "The number you have dialled is not in service at this time!" Or like the youngster who asked his father, "Dad, what is 69?"

His father thought about it for a while and then explained to the boy, "Well son, it is a position where a

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man and a woman pleasure each other orally at the same time.”

The boy was not sure and asked his dad, “So, what shall I write? Odd or even?” It might not be either. The fact is that, when you move from 68 and hit 69, what comes after is not 70. It’s Listerine.

In the case of a 93 year-old man, it might be ‘blisterine’. Last week, two men were talking about the wedding of their boss and one complained to the other, “It’s ridiculous. He’s rich is true, but he’s 93 years old. What kind of wedding is that?”

The other said, “Well we have a name for it in my family.” His friend asked, “What do you call it?” and his colleague replied, “We call it a football wedding.”

His friend had no idea what a football wedding was and asked his

friend, who replied, “It means that she’s waiting for him to kick off!”

Talking about that, a youngster’s grandmother started running 5K (five kilometres) a day since she was 60. She had reached 93 and he had no idea where she was.

A tough old cowboy once told his grandson that, if he wanted to live a long life, he should sprinkle a little gunpowder on his oatmeal every morning.

The grandson did this every day until he died at age 93, leaving 14 children, 28 grandchildren, 35 great grandchildren and a thirteen-foot hole in the wall of the crematorium. You don’t even have to reach that age to find 93 useful.

A 60 year-old millionaire found a way of getting married to a 23-year-old beauty. He faked his age. He told her he was 93.

However, 93 does not work for everybody. A 93 year-old man was sitting on the kerb crying. A passerby stopped and asked him, “What’s the matter?”

The old man looked up and cried even more, “I’m 93, married to a gorgeous 21-year-old who wants us to make love before breakfast, lunch and tea, and then twice again at night!”

The passerby laughed, “So, what’s the problem then?” The old man, crying even louder and pounding the seat he sat on, replied “I can’t remember where I live!”

Tony Deyal was last seen saying, if he ever reaches 93, he hopes to be like the old man of that age who was marrying a 20 year-old girl. His worried friend cautioned him, “At your age, that could be fatal.” The old man replied, “So, if she dies, she dies!”



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Price hikes and boycotts: Is trouble brewing at Starbucks?

By Natalie Sherman

Andrew Buckley, a self-described “mocha guy”, recently swore off his Starbucks habit, reeling after the firm’s latest price increase sent the cost of his drink above \$6.

The 50-year-old, who works in tech sales in Idaho, had been a loyal customer for decades, treasuring his near-daily venti mocha as a little luxury that allowed him to stretch his legs during the work day.

But the company’s latest price increase crossed a line.

“It was the straw that broke the camel’s back on my feelings of inflation in general. It’s like, ‘That’s it. I can’t do it anymore,’” says Mr Buckley, who rang up customer service with complaints before heading to social media to vent.

“I just lost it,” he said. “I don’t plan to be back either.”

The decision was a sign of the bigger troubles brewing at Starbucks, which is hitting new resistance from inflation-weary customers just as fights over unionisation and protests against the company cast as a way to oppose Israel’s war in Gaza are sparking boycott calls and tarnishing the brand.

Sales at the company slumped 1.8% year-on-year globally at the start of 2024.

In the US - by far the firm’s biggest and most important market - sales at



stores open at least a year dropped 3% - the biggest fall in years outside the pandemic and Great Recession.

Among those jumping ship were some of the firm’s most committed customers - rewards members, whose active numbers marked a rare 4% fall compared with the prior quarter.

Former regular David White says he has stopped nearly all of his purchases with Starbucks in recent months, at times abandoning orders mid-purchase, aghast at the totals in his cart.

He says his outrage over price hikes has been bolstered by other company decisions, including its crackdown on workers seeking to unionise.

“They’ve gotten too full of themselves,” the 65-year-old from Wisconsin says. “They’re trying to squeeze their day-to-day customers too much and profit via their

employees and prices.”

For Andrew Buckley, the decision to quit the firm was down to prices, but he notes that the various noise surrounding the firm on political issues has left a bad taste in his mouth.

“This is a coffee shop. They serve coffee,” he says. “I don’t want to see them in the news.”

On a conference call to discuss the firm’s latest results, Starbucks chief executive Laxman Narasimhan said sales had been disappointing, citing in part more cautious customers, while acknowledging that “recent misinformation” had weighed on sales, especially in the Middle East.

He defended the brand and vowed to bring back business with new menu items such as boba drinks and an egg sandwich with pesto, speedier service in

stores, and a flurry of promotions.

Chief financial officer Rachel Ruggeri said this week that the company was seeing signs of revival, noting growth in active rewards members.

The firm does not intend to back away from its expansion plans, but she warned investors that the challenges would not quickly disappear.

“We do believe it’s going to take some time,” she said.

The firm’s struggles have stirred debate about whether they are a canary-in-the-coalmine kind of warning that the go-lucky consumer spending that has powered the world’s largest economy in recent years might be abruptly losing steam.

Like Starbucks, a slew of other big fast-food brands, including McDonald’s, Wendy’s and Burger King, have

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reported softening sales, announcing discount sprees to try to revive enthusiasm.

But many analysts believe Starbucks' sales drop reveals more about the company than the wider economy.

"When you look back and you see the magnitude of the shift... that occurred in such a short time, that doesn't usually point to something that's macro in nature or price point-related in nature," says Sharon Zackfia, head of consumer at investment management firm William Blair, who raised concern in a note to clients last month that the brand might be losing its lustre.

The company was already under pressure from a years-long fight with union activists, who have raised concerns about pay and working conditions that clashed with the firm's progressive reputation.

Then in late October, after Starbucks sued the union for a social media post expressing "solidarity" with Palestinians, the dispute landed it in the middle of debates over Israel's war in Gaza, sparking global boycott calls that took on a life of their own.

Starbucks - not the only American brand to face a backlash over the issue and not a target of the official Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement - has blamed misinformation about its views, after issuing a blanket statement condemning violence in the



There have been protests outside Starbucks branches nationwide and calls for a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas

region.

It has also taken a different tack with the union in recent months - the two sides are now issuing joint press releases claiming progress on contract negotiations.

But the boycott calls crescendoed on social media in January and continue to linger, according to a Bank of America analysis.

Last month, YouTube comedian Danny Gonzalez apologised to his 6.5 million followers for the incidental presence of a Starbucks cup in a recent video after a backlash.

Though Starbucks executives have remained relatively quiet on the topic during sales discussions, as Ms Zackfia puts it: "You'd really be putting your head in the sand not to think that it has had an effect."

Bank of America analyst Sara Senatore says she had initially been sceptical that the boycott would have a major impact, but other

causes seemed insufficient to explain such a sudden and severe sales drop, noting that the firm's price hikes do not stand out from their competitors'.

She says a quick turnaround could be a tall order, comparing the impact to the brand crisis that faced Chipotle after its stores were found responsible for sparking e-coli outbreaks, which took years to shake off.

"All you can do is try to dampen the sound or essentially overcome it with other things," she says. "It may just be a matter of time."

On a recent sunny midday in New York, where the density of Starbucks cafes is among the highest in the world, it was hard to gauge the state of the business.

Some shops appeared empty, until customers darting in for a mobile order punctuated the calm.

Even loyal drinkers said they saw opportunities for improvement.

Maria Soare, a 24-year-old in town from Washington, DC, still picks up drinks from the company three or four times a week, but her patronage has dimmed since the pandemic, when it served as a reason to get out of the house.

She says recent price hikes "sting", and advises the company to "change the food".

For friends Veronica and Maria Giorgia, the feel of the company has changed.

Veronica, 16, says she doesn't go as much anymore due to a combination of better options elsewhere, the jump in prices, and recent protests by labour activists.

"That opened my eyes," she says. "It feels more like a chain."

And while Maria Giorgia remains a regular customer, the 17-year-old says her perception of the firm has shifted. "It used to be cool in middle school. Now it's just convenient."

Haiti's new prime minister hospitalised

Haiti's newly selected prime minister, Garry Conille, was hospitalised late Saturday in the capital of Port-au-Prince just days after arriving in the country, the government said.

It wasn't immediately known why Conille was hospitalised.

The office of the prime minister said in a statement that Conille was feeling slightly unwell "following a week of intense activities." It did not provide further details except to say that Conille was stable and that he thanked those who visited him and wished him well.

Louis Gérald Gilles, a member of the transitional presidential council that recently chose Conille as leader of the troubled Caribbean country, told The Associated Press that he was at the hospital but unable to provide further information.

A person close to Conille, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorised to speak to the media, told AP that he was with the prime minister when he noticed Conille, who he said is asthmatic and sometimes uses an inhaler, appeared to have trouble breathing. The person said he called high-ranking officials and told them Conille needed to be taken to the hospital.

A spokesman for Conille did not return messages for comment.

AP journalists observed high-ranking officials entering the hospital, includ-



New Haitian Prime Minister Garry Conille, left, speaks to the president of the council Edgard Leblanc Fils during his swearing-in ceremony in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Monday, June 3, 2024. (AP Photo/Odelyn Joseph)

ing Frantz Elbé, director of Haiti's National Police. Also present was Bruno Maes, UNICEF's representative in Haiti. A handful of curious onlookers gathered outside the hospital as authorities blocked the street with tinted-glass SUVs.

Conille was chosen as prime minister on May 28 after a convoluted selection process. He faces an arduous task as Haiti's newest leader, including quelling widespread gang violence as the country prepares for the UN-backed deployment of a Kenyan police force, a move that was delayed in part because Haiti lacked a premier after former Prime Minister Ariel Henry stepped down April 25.

Henry was on an official visit to Kenya when gangs launched coordinated attacks February 29, burning police stations, shooting at the country's main international airport and storming Haiti's two biggest prisons, releasing more than 4,000 inmates. The violence left Henry locked out of the country and eventually led to his resignation.

Conille arrived in Haiti on June 1, having worked outside the country until recently as UNICEF's regional director for Latin America and the Caribbean, a post he assumed in January 2023. He previously served as Haiti's prime minister from October 2011 to May 2012 under then President Michel Martelly.

Conille has been meet-

ing with multiple officials and visiting various parts of Port-au-Prince since arriving, including climbing into an armoured vehicle wearing a helmet and flak jacket to go along on a patrol with officers from Haiti's National Police.

Earlier Saturday, Conille toured Haiti's main international airport, which recently reopened after gang violence forced it to close for nearly three months. On Friday, he met with leaders of the private business sector as well as the country's two telecommunications companies.

Conille also had been meeting regularly with the transitional council as they debated who should be appointed to Haiti's new Cabinet.

US Coast Guard offloads millions in cocaine seized from Caribbean Sea

CMC – A total of 245 kilograms of cocaine seized in the Caribbean Sea and nine suspected smugglers were handed over to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) authorities at Coast Guard Base San Juan, Puerto Rico on Friday.

According to the United States Coast Guard, the seized contraband, valued at US\$7.4 million, resulted from collaborative efforts under Coast Guard initiatives including the Western Hemisphere Strategy and Operation Unified Resolve.

In an operation led by the DEA, the crew of Coast Guard Cutter Heriberto Hernández located a suspect vessel around 75 nautical miles south of St Croix, US Virgin Islands, in the early morning hours of June 3, 2023.

As cutter Heriberto Hernández approached, the US Coast Guard said the crew observed the occupants of the suspect vessel “jettison multiple packages overboard.”

“The crew of cutter Heriberto Hernández successfully stopped the suspect vessel that had nine men onboard, who claimed to be Venezuelan nationals,” the US Coast Guard



said.

“The cutter crew also recovered multiple packages of the jettisoned cargo and seized a total of 10 bales and two additional bags, with individual packages, which tested positive for cocaine,” it added. “The crew of cutter Heriberto Hernández embarked the nine detainees and seized contraband that were later transferred to cutter Charles David Jr. for final transport to San Juan, Puerto Rico.”

Lieutenant Commander Edward Kunigonis, Sector San Juan chief of enforcement, said: “We appreciate the efforts of Cutter Heriberto Hernández’s crew as well as the work and collaboration of all other Coast Guard per-

sonnel, units and partner agencies involved in this case.

“The daily work and collaboration with our federal, local and regional partners is critical to achieving successful outcomes like in this case to help safeguard the Caribbean region from this threat,” he added.

DEA Special Agent in Charge Denise Foster said that Friday’s “successful interdiction and seizure underscore the relentless commitment and collaboration of our federal, local and regional partners in combating drug trafficking in the Caribbean.

“The efforts of the Coast Guard and all agencies involved in this operation are vital to our

mission of safeguarding our communities from the scourge of narcotics,” she said. “The DEA will continue to lead the investigation to ensure that those responsible for these crimes are brought to justice.”

The US Coast Guard said its efforts under Operation Unified Resolve contribute to the interagency results being achieved daily under Operation Caribbean Guard, which coordinates efforts between the Coast Guard, the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and Commonwealth and Territorial law enforcement partners, “who are working diligently to deter, detect and disrupt illicit maritime trafficking to Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands.”



Fire officials said the 45-year-old woman, who was swimming, was airlifted to a trauma centre.

Three swimmers hurt in shark attacks in Florida

By Francesca Gillett

Beachgoers in the Gulf Coast of Florida have been told to be vigilant, after three swimmers were attacked by sharks in two separate attacks.

One woman was said to have had part of her arm amputated after being bitten on Friday in Walton County in north-west Florida.

Less than two hours later, at another beach four miles further east, two teenage girls were in waist-deep water with friends when they were attacked.

One of the girls suffered “significant injuries to the upper leg and one hand” while the other had minor injuries on one of her feet, fire officials said.

Authorities have been patrolling the shoreline in boats and some beaches were closed, although they reopened on Saturday with purple flags warning

of dangerous marine life.

The first incident happened at around 13:20 local time on Friday when a woman, about 45-years-old, was attacked near WaterSound Beach, South Walton Fire District said.

She suffered “critical injuries” to her hip and lower left arm and was airlifted to hospital, fire officials said.

Part of her arm had to be amputated, fire chief Ryan Crawford later told a news briefing, according to the BBC’s US partner CBS News.

The second attack - on two girls about 15 years old - happened at about 14:55 local time near Seacrest Beach, the fire department added.

“Please swim carefully, respect the Gulf, stay hydrated, and look out for your loved ones,” South Walton Fire District said on X.

Walton County Sheriff’s office

said on X on Saturday that during patrols, deputies spotted a 14 ft (4.2m) hammerhead shark in Santa Rosa Beach - but stressed they were “not uncommon”.

“We want to reiterate that sharks are always present in the Gulf,” they said.

“Swimmers and beachgoers should be cautious when swimming and stay aware of their surroundings.”

According to the University of Florida’s International Shark Attack File, there are around 70 to 100 shark attacks every year worldwide, resulting in about five deaths.

The ISAF said last year, there were 69 unprovoked shark bites on humans and 22 provoked bites globally.

In Florida, the majority of shark attacks are by requiem sharks - a

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Israeli war cabinet minister Benny Gantz quits emergency government

By Jake Lapham

Israeli war cabinet minister Benny Gantz has quit the emergency government in a sign of deepening divisions over Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's post-conflict plans for Gaza.

Speaking during a news conference in Tel Aviv on Sunday where he announced his resignation, Mr Gantz said the decision was made with a "heavy heart".

"Unfortunately, Mr Netanyahu is preventing us from approaching true victory, which is the justification for the painful ongoing crisis," he said.

The retired army general and frequent critic of Mr Netanyahu also called on the prime minister to set a date for elections.

Mr Netanyahu responded with a post on X: "Benny, this is not the time to quit the campaign, this is the time to join forces."

Last month, Mr Gantz set a deadline of 8 June for Mr Netanyahu to lay out how Israel would achieve its six



Israel formed a three-person war cabinet following the 7 October attacks.

«strategic goals», including the end of Hamas rule in Gaza and the establishment of a multinational civilian administration for the territory.

The prime minister dismissed the comments at the time as "washed-up words" that would mean "defeat for Israel".

A retired army general, Mr Gantz had been a member of Israel's key decision-making "war cabinet",

along with the prime minister and Defence Minister Yoav Gallant.

During the news conference, Mr Gantz said he is not only personally resigning from the government, but withdrawing the National Unity party he chairs, too.

The move will not topple the Israeli government, since Mr Netanyahu will still hold a comfortable majority of 64 in the 120-seat Knesset.

It does, however, lay bare the deep political divisions over how the prime minister is running the war.

A political rival of Benjamin Netanyahu and a former IDF chief of staff, Mr Gantz's centrist National Unity party was in opposition until 11 October 2023 when, after the start of the war following Hamas's 7 October attacks, he agreed to form an emergency government with Mr Netanyahu.

National Unity holds five posts in the emergency government.

Mr Gantz's influence in the government was widely seen as a counterbalance to that of far-right members of Mr Netanyahu's coalition.

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family of sharks that like warm seas and include species such as bull sharks or blacktip sharks.

Most attacks occur in nearshore waters, typically near a sandbar where sharks feed and can become trapped at low tide.

Small fish are traveling in schools near

the shore this time of year, which might have been a contributing factor in Friday's attacks, the Bay County Sheriff's Office suggested.

The time of the attacks - in the middle of the afternoon - was also an anomaly, Walton County Sheriff Michael Adkinson said, according to CBS News.



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Da Squad and Pytonz remain unbeaten in volleyball league

Caribbean Alliance Insurance (CAI) Da Squad and Pytonz extended their unbeaten runs in the Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association (ABAVA) Local League on Saturday night.

Reigning champions Da Squad secured their ninth win in as many games by prevailing 3-1 against Starz 1 Seniors at the indoor stadium at the YMCA Sports Complex.

Da Squad took an hour and 41 minutes to win 25-15, 25-17, 20-25, and 25-13 against Starz 1 Seniors, who remain second in the Female Division 1 League after suffering their third loss in nine games.

The Pytonz strengthened their position at the top of the Men's Division 1 League with their 15th win in as many games by coasting to a 3-0 victory against the Top Ranking Storming Lions.

The Pytonz took just an hour and 14 minutes to prevail 27-25, 25-19, and 26-24 against the Storming Lions, who lost for the fourth time in 14 matches and remain in third place.

Paragons and Stoneville also recorded wins in their latest matches. Paragons, who are former Women's Division 1 champions, beat the bottom team, the Royal Cruisers, 3-0 in straight sets in



The Pytonz men's volleyball team

an hour and 23 minutes.

The Paragons won 25-18, 25-15, and 25-20 to claim their fifth win in nine encounters, while the Royal Cruisers remain in the cellar after suffering their ninth loss in as many games.

Reigning Men's Division 1 champions Stoneville strengthened their second-place position in the standings by also pulling off a 3-0 straight-set win against the Invaders in an hour and 19 minutes.

Stoneville notched up their 12th win in 13 games by prevailing 25-23, 25-20, and 25-18 against the Invaders, who lost for the 10th time in 13 encounters.

There was success as well for the Jets and Print Xpress Renegades.

The Jets secured their fifth win in nine games by snatching a 3-2 victory against Stoneville, who lost for the seventh time in nine encounters in the Female Division 1 League.

The Jets took two hours and nine minutes to beat Stoneville 25-14, 16-25, 18-25, 25-17, and 20-18.

The Renegades claimed their ninth win in 14 games with a 3-0 victory against TOA Media and MKUU Chargers Velocity, which lost for the 14th time in as many games to remain in the cellar of the Men's Division 1 League.

The Renegades took an hour and two minutes to beat the Chargers Velocity 25-6, 25-7, and 25-15.

Scotland claim comfortable win over Oman

Brandon McMullen's 61 not out helped Scotland to a seven-wicket win against Oman in the ICC Men's T20 World Cup Group B encounter at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in North Sound, Antigua, on Sunday.

Oman reached 150 for seven in their innings, thanks in large part to Pratik Athavale's 54 off 40 balls, with five fours and two sixes to his credit.

Richie Berrington's side achieved victory at 153 for three in 13.1 overs, meaning they still have hope of reaching the Super Eights after a win against Namibia and an abandoned match against England in their two previous matches.

Athavale played a fine innings, coming in at the top of the order and leading by example. George Munsey will have been kicking himself as he had a brilliant chance to remove him before reaching his half-century - but dropped him over the rope for six instead of sending him on his way.

Naseem Khushi had been first to fall, in the third over, attempting to move across his crease but hitting a Chris Sole ball directly to Mark Watt.

Aqib Ilyas went for 16, lbw off Safyaan Sharif, then Zeeshan Maqsood made three before edging Watt to Cross.

There was some contro-



Scotland's George Munsey hits a boundary during his team's victory against Oman in their ICC Men's T20 World Cup Group B encounter at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in North Sound, Antigua, on Sunday, June 9, 2024.

versy in the ninth over as Watt thought he had bowled Khalid Kail - but the umpire signalled a dead ball. Still, he got a measure of revenge in the following ball, whipping off the stumps with Kail well out of his crease to leave Oman on 71 for four.

Ayaan Khan, the next man in, put together a good partnership with Athavale, 43 runs from 41 balls, before the opener finally fell, sending a poor shot off Chris Greaves into the hands of Brandon McMullen.

And Mehran Khan put in a decent cameo of 13 off 10 balls - including two fours - before edging behind to Cross off Sharif.

Rafiullah went without

troubling the scorer, caught Sharif off Wheal, but Ayaan wrapped up the innings with a superb last over, including two more boundaries, and taking Oman to a solid score of 150 for seven at the end of their 20 overs allotment.

Scotland were never seriously troubled in their response, despite losing Michael Jones for 16 in the third over. Fellow opener George Munsey got things started with 41 off 20 balls, and when McMullen joined him at the crease, the runs began to flow.

By the time Shakeel Ahmed caught Munsey off Mehran in the eighth over, Scotland were 86 for two and over halfway to their

target. Captain Berrington added 13 and wicketkeeper Cross an unbeaten 15 as McMullen led the way over the line with his unbeaten half century.

At East Meadow, New York, India beat Pakistan by six runs in a low-scoring but tense T20 World Cup Group A encounter on Sunday at the Nassau County International Cricket Stadium in New York, where more than 34,000 fans were in attendance at the temporary arena despite the early rain.

The result moved India to the top of Group A with two wins from their opening two matches while Pakistan have zero points from two

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Swetes boost chances of remaining in Premier Division next season

Swetes have significantly boosted their chances of playing in next season's Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Premier Division League.

Shafeeq Joseph scored twice as Swetes romped to a 5-0 victory against Police in their opening game of the Premier and First Division round-robin playoff series at the ABFA Technical Center.

Joseph scored twice with goals in the 37th and 68th minutes. Shalon Knight opened the scoring by converting a penalty kick in the 25th minute; Karique Knight scored in the 41st minute; and Nicholas Clarke wrapped up the match with a 72nd-minute conversion.

Swetes will remain in the Premier

Division by securing a victory or draw against the Attacking Saints in the final match of the playoff series at the ABFA Technical Center today at 6:15 pm.

The three teams are contesting the playoffs, with the winner getting the opportunity to compete in the Premier Division next season.

Meanwhile, Second Division team Sea View Farm have kept alive their faint hopes of attaining promotion to the First Division.

Julius Raleigh, Azari Edwards, and Rhezal Gomes each converted twice as Sea View Farm romped to a 7-0 victory against the Young Lions in their final encounter of the First and Second Division round-robin playoff series at the ABFA Technical Center.

Raleigh scored in the 1st and 37th

minutes, Edwards had conversions in the 15th and 39th minutes, and Gomes scored in the 65th and 84th minutes. The other goal was scored by Markland Wright, who converted a penalty kick in the 87th minute.

Sea View Farm ended their campaign in the round-robin playoffs with three points after suffering a 2-1 loss against fellow First Division team, Urlings, in the opening match of the three-team round-robin series.

The First Division team, the Young Lions of Old Road, will clash with Urlings in the final match of the playoff series at the ABFA Technical Center today at 4:15 pm.

The winner of the playoff series will compete in the First Division next season.

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defeats following their upset by the hosts, the United States.

Pakistan won the toss and elected to bowl first on a two-paced pitch where rain interruptions made things difficult for India who struggled to get going and were dismissed for 119 in 19 overs in which Rishabh Pant hit a top score of 42.

In response, Mohammad Rizwan laid the platform for the chase with a patient knock of 31 but Pakistan fell short after losing wickets at regular intervals while India's Jasprit Bumrah, who took three for 14, made crucial breakthroughs and bowled 15 dot balls.

Chasing a run-a-ball 120 to win, Pakistan lost skipper Babar Azam (13)



Scotland's Brandon McMullen celebrates after leading his team to victory against Oman in their ICC Men's T20 World Cup Group B encounter at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in North Sound, Antigua, on Sunday, June 9, 2024. (ICC/Getty Images)

when he edged Bumrah to the slips while Usman Khan and Fakhar Zaman also fell for 13.

But Rizwan, who was dropped in the third over by Shivam Dube near the boundary, made a patient

knock of 31 before Bumrah made another crucial breakthrough when he had the opener bowled.

The game suddenly turned India's way when Rishabh Pant took a second running catch to dismiss

Shadab Khan as Pakistan's required run rate crept up and left them needing 21 runs off the last two overs.

Bumrah was saved for the penultimate over where the pace spearhead conceded only three runs and finished his spell with his third wicket when Iftikhar Ahmed was caught in the deep.

Naseem Shah smashed two boundaries in the final over but Arshdeep Singh ensured there were no fireworks at the end, restricting Pakistan to 113 for seven off their 20 overs, as India held on for a narrow win.

Cricket fans in Antigua and Barbuda can tune in to Platinum FM 97.9, which is providing daily live ball-by-ball coverage of matches in the current ICC Men's T20 World Cup.



Players of the Cayman Islands football team. The Cayman Islands upset Antigua and Barbuda 1-0 in their Group A match in the second round of CONCACAF qualifiers for the 2026 FIFA World Cup at the Truman Bodden Sports Complex in George Town, Cayman Islands, on Saturday, June 8, 2024. (CONCACAF)

Antigua lose to Cayman Islands in World Cup Qualifier

Antigua and Barbuda Benna Boys conceded a late goal to crash to a one-nil loss against the Cayman Islands in the second match of their Group A campaign in the second round of CONCACAF qualifiers for the 2026 FIFA World Cup at the Truman Bodden Sports Complex in George Town, Cayman Islands, on Saturday night.

Defender Joshwa Campbell scored the lone goal with a header at the right post in the 91st minute or the first of seven minutes of added time. Trey Ebanks provided the cross for the match-winning goal.

It was the second time in as many games that Antigua and Barbuda's Benna Boyz conceded a late goal in their current World Cup qualifying campaign.

Sachiel Ming scored an equalizer in the 90th minute to allow Bermuda to

salvage a 1-1 draw with hosts Antigua and Barbuda in their opening Group A encounter at the ABFA Technical Center on Wednesday, June 5.

Saturday's win allows the Cayman Islands to start their campaign in Group A with three points, and they will travel to face Cuba on Tuesday. Antigua and Barbuda will remain on one point after two matches.

Meanwhile, Guatemala, Suriname, Curaçao, and Nicaragua collected their second consecutive wins as the Second Round of CONCACAF Qualifiers for the 2026 FIFA World Cup continued with its third match day on Saturday.

Trinidad and Tobago also took three points to bounce back from a 2-2 draw with Grenada at home last Wednesday.

Guatemala earned a 3-nil win over the British Virgin Islands in Group E at

the A. O. Shirley Recreation Ground in Road Town, British Virgin Islands.

Suriname defeated Anguilla by a score of four-nil in Group F at the Raymond E. Guishard in The Valley, Anguilla.

Trinidad and Tobago recorded a 7-1 win against the Bahamas in Group B at the SKNFA Technical Centre in Basseterre, St. Kitts.

Curaçao won two-nil at Arube in Group C at the Guillermo Prospero Trinidad Sports Complex in Oranjestad, Aruba. Aruba will face St. Lucia in their next encounter on Tuesday in Bridgetown, Barbados.

Nicaragua earned a four-nil victory over Belize in Group D at the FFP Stadium in Belmopan, Belize. Nicaragua currently leads the group with two wins. Belize will face Guyana on Tuesday in Bridgetown, Barbados.

One-point win for Under-21 National Team in ABNA's Netball League

The Under-21 National Team snatched a one-point win against S.W. Electronics Black Lightning in the Cool and Smooth Antigua and Barbuda Netball Association's (ABNA) League on Saturday.

The Under-21 National Team prevailed 21-20 against S.W. Electronics Black Lightning in the A Division at the YMCA Sports Complex.

Zhanira Pereira scored 12 goals from 23 attempts, Stacia Henry sank five goals from nine shots, Joy Shaw converted two of her seven attempts, and Jahida Payne scored two of her 13 shots for the Under-21 National Team.

Karol Carlton sank 13 goals from 17 attempts, Zaine Frederick scored five of her six shots, and Paula Jackson converted two of her four attempts for S.W. Electronics Black Lightning.

Roman Hill United prevailed 22-18 against S.W. Electronics Black

Lightning in the Mixed Division.

Akiel Hazelwood sank 12 goals from 17 attempts, Jamila Fitz scored six of her 12 shots, and Carl Kirby converted four from 7 attempts for Roman Hill United.

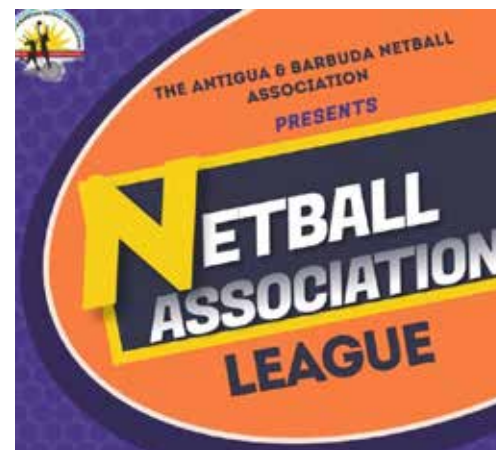
Kareem Edwards scored 15 goals from 21 attempts, and Paula Jackson converted three from seven attempts for S.W. Electronics Black Lightning.

Defante Stingers snatched a 7-5 victory against S.W. Electronics Black Lightning in the Under-16 B Division.

Shakrya Prince converted 12 goals from 19 attempts, and Deniah Henry sank eight goals from 20 shots for the Defante Stingers.

Keandra Merrick and Azaliya Simon each scored two goals from four attempts for S.W. Electronics Black Lightning.

The Cool and Smooth ABNA's



Netball League will continue with three matches at the YMCA Sports Complex today.

In the B Division, Cool and Smooth Pacesetters B will take on S.W. Electronics Black Lightning Under-16 at 5:30 pm, and Defante Stingers will face Old Road at 6:30 pm.

S.W. Electronics Black Lightning will clash with Roman Hill United in the A Division at 7:30 pm.

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Yet instead they now find themselves fourth in the group and in need of big wins over Oman and Namibia to stand a chance, while also hoping for a capitulation from Scotland, who are second.

Chasing a target of 202, England was restricted to 165 for six off their 20 overs. England were trundling along nicely until Adam Zampa with two for 28 dismissed openers Phil Salt (37) and Buttler (42) in the space of two overs.

Will Jacks did not last long as Australia severely dented England's run rate, with the further quickfire dismissals of Jonny Bairstow and Moeen Ali all but ending

England's chances.

And when Liam Livingstone was sent packing by Patrick Cummins late in the day, England knew their hopes of making it out of the group have suddenly turned bleak.

No player scored over 50 for either team, though David Warner (39), Mitchell Marsh (35) and Travis Head (34) were the leading lights for Australia in their total of 201 for 7 off their 20 overs.

Meanwhile, South Africa maintained their unbeaten start to the T20 World Cup with a four-wicket triumph over the Netherlands at the Nassau County International Cricket Stadium in New York on Saturday.

David Miller was the Proteas' star with an unbeaten 59, as South Africa recovered from a dismal start in which they had slumped to 12 for three.

The Netherlands had started poorly themselves with the bat, though Sybrand Engelbrecht steadied the ship with a 45-ball 40 before he was caught by Marco Jansen from Ottniel Baartman's delivery.

Afterwards, the Netherlands' scoring rate soon fizzled out, with the Dutch finishing on 103 for nine off their 20 overs.

That lacklustre conclusion to their innings looked set to be swiftly forgotten as South Africa's

top order disintegrated inside the first four overs, and the Netherlands seemed to be on their way to a famous win.

But a strong partnership of Tristan Stubbs (33) and Miller anchored South Africa's innings, and the Proteas emerged victorious at 106 for six off 18.5 overs.

Miller fittingly confirmed the victory with a six, smashing that shot through the leg side. Sri Lanka remain bottom of Group D following their two-wicket defeat to Bangladesh on Friday night.

Meanwhile, Afghanistan continued their excellent start at this year's tournament, beating New Zealand by 84 runs on Friday to move to the top of Group C.

Windies crush Uganda at T20 World Cup

The West Indies delivered a commanding performance against Uganda in their second match of the 2024 T20 World Cup, crushing their opponents by 134 runs at the National Stadium in Providence, Guyana, on Saturday night.

The star of the night was undoubtedly left-arm spinner Akeal Hosein, whose career-best figures of five for 11 spearheaded the West Indies' bowling attack and highlighted the fruits of his relentless hard work and preparation.

West Indies made 173 for five off their allotted 20 overs. Johnson Charles led the charge with a solid 44, while Andre Russell's brisk 30 off 17 balls, alongside essential innings from Rovman Powell (23), Nicholas Pooran (22), and Sherfane Rutherford (22), set a challenging target for Uganda.

The Ugandan side, however, crumbled under the pressure of the West Indies' bowling onslaught, collapsing to a paltry 39 all out. Only Juma Miyagi managed to reach double figures, remaining unbeaten on 13.

Hosein's exceptional spell was well-supported by fast bowler Alzarri Joseph with two wickets for six runs, and a wicket each from Russell, Gudakesh Motie, and Romario Shepherd.

Reflecting on his outstanding performance, Hosein attributed his success to his dedication and strategic planning.

"I think I needed this. In the nets and in the previous series, I felt the ball was coming out good but I was just not getting the rewards," Hosein explained.



Nicholas Pooran, second right, congratulates Akeal Hosein during the West Indies Group C Match against Uganda in the ICC Men's T20 World Cup at the National Cricket Stadium in Providence, Guyana, June 8, 2024. (ICC/Getty Images)

Hosein's disciplined approach and adaptability were evident as he dismantled the Ugandan batting lineup, showcasing why he is regarded as one of the top bowlers in the world.

Meanwhile, West Indies captain Rovman Powell praised his team's significantly improved performance compared to their nervy five-wicket victory against Papua New Guinea in their opening match on June 2.

"We talk about improving 10-15 per cent every match. Last game, we were flat so we just wanted to improve as a team," Powell remarked.

Powell was particularly effusive in his praise for Hosein, emphasizing his consistent excellence.

"He has been fantastic, that is why he is the number-three ranked bowler in the world.

"He has done it against Full-Member nations as well, and we expect him to do it against teams that are just coming into international cricket."

Elsewhere, Australia defeated England by 36 runs at the Kensington Ovals in Barbados to leave Jos Buttler's side staring down the brink of an early exit from the T20 World Cup.

With their opening match against Scotland having yielded no result, England needed to beat Australia on Saturday to propel themselves into a strong position to progress from Group B.

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