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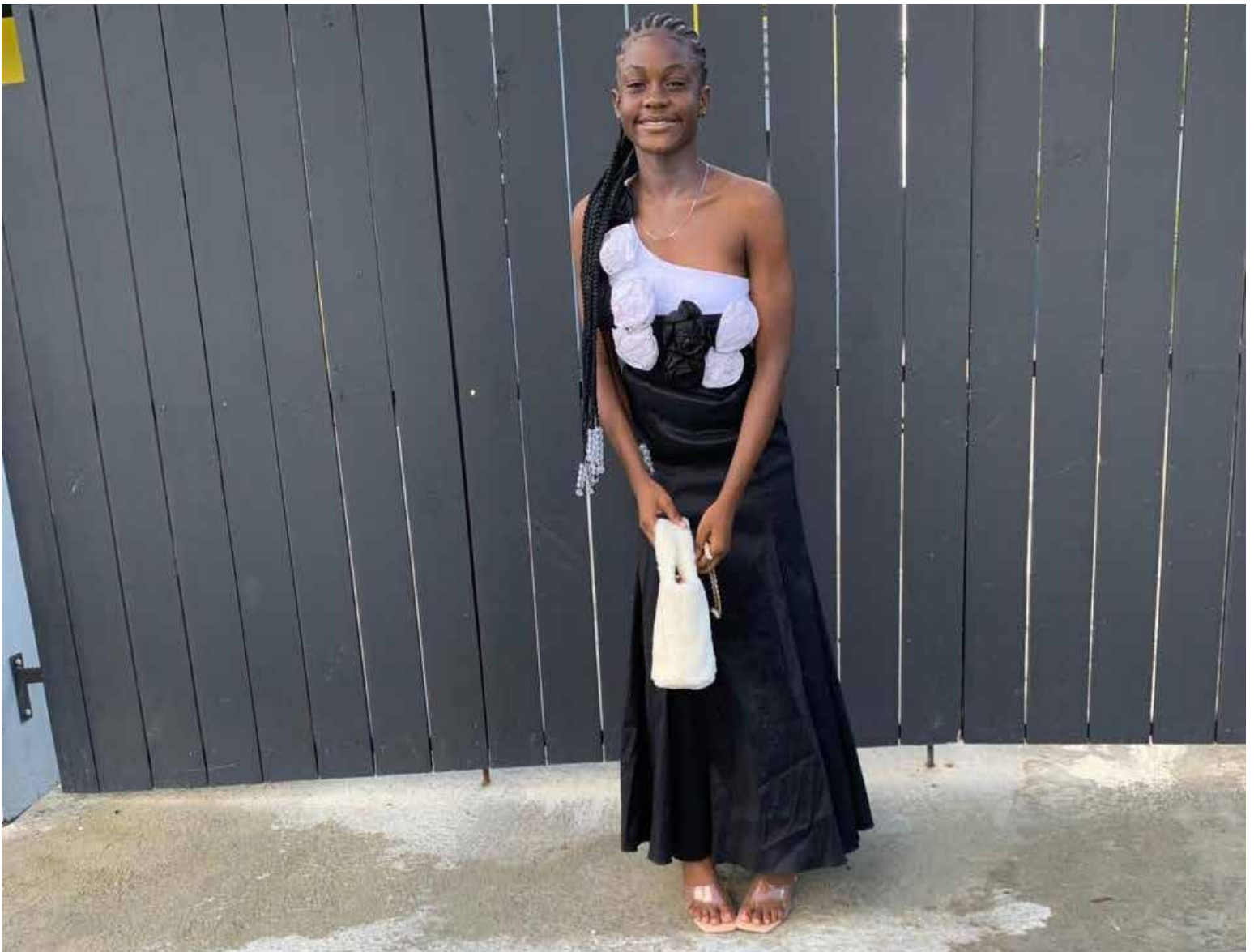
MONDAY 19TH AUGUST 2024

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POLICE TO GET 'ALL THEY NEED' TO FIGHT CRIME

Story on Page 2



The body of 15-year-old Achazia James of Upper Fort Road was discovered early Sunday morning. *Story on page 3.*

Police to get 'all they need' to fight crime

The recent uptick in gun-related crime has spurred the government to pledge more resources to the Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda so that lawmen will be fully equipped to tackle criminal elements in the society.

Prime Minister Gaston Browne said his government is taking a firm stance against crime as this could derail the country's economic progress and unknit the nation's social fabric.

He revealed that at a recent meeting of senior officers of the police with the Cabinet, approval was given to hire an additional 140 officers for the force.



“We discussed a number of strategies and this

will be evidenced with more officers on the streets. We have authorized the hiring of 140 new officers and already half of that amount is already in place.

“So, we are scaling up the number of officers while at the same time procuring additional vehicles for the force. We have provided dogs and I have asked the commissioner to acquire four more gun-sniffing dogs to be placed at both the airport and the seaport.

“If these are the areas where illegal firearms are entering the country, then these dogs will enable us to intercept more,” he outlined.

On the issue of porous borders, the prime minister acknowledged that this is a problem for not just Anti-

gua and Barbuda, but several countries across the Caribbean. However, he is determined to take steps to deal with the issue.

“We will be investing in at least one major maritime platform for the Antigua and Barbuda Defense Force as we are trying to raise a significant amount of money to purchase this significant platform so that we can improve maritime surveillance.

“We are also adding more cameras throughout the society, especially in St. John's. So, the public can expect improved crimefighting capabilities within the upcoming weeks and months,” he stated.

PM Browne also announced that the government intends to purchase a number of drones to be

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UTILITIES ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT

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Disconnections will be carried out during the period August 12th to August 30th, 2024.

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Female body found at Runaway beach

Police confirmed the identity of the body discovered at Runaway Beach early Sunday morning to be 15-year-old Achazia James of Upper Fort Road.

James' body was found by two beachgoers with what appears to be multiple chop wounds. She was reportedly last seen alive sometime after 3:00 am Sunday, August 18.

She was pronounced dead at 8:53 am. She is said to be a student at a secondary school located in St. John's.

Meanwhile, the admin-

istration of the police force is troubled by this cruel and senseless killing, and is calling upon the public to come forward and assist the police in their investigation.


The police have not confirmed whether or not they have a suspect in custody assisting with their investigation despite postings on social media indicating that this is so.

Anyone with information can contact the Criminal Investigations Department at 462-3913 or call the Crimestoppers anonymous hotline at 800-TIPS (8477).

cont'd from pg 2

deployed by the police as part of their crime-fighting arsenal. "We are doing everything humanly possible to tackle crime as we recognize that there has been an uptick and we are responding accordingly," he noted.

He emphasized that the crime situation in Antigua and Barbuda is relatively low when compared with other territories, but he noted, this is not an excuse to allow the problem to get out of hand.



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Preventative Maintenance:

- Execute preventative maintenance schedules as directed by the Maintenance Manager/Supervisor to ensure optimal system performance and longevity.
- Conduct regular inspections of HVAC/R equipment to identify potential issues and address them proactively.

Contractor Oversight:

- Monitor and oversee services provided by external HVAC/R contractors, ensuring compliance with contractual agreements and quality standards.

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Local News



PM Browne makes direct appeal to young men

Prime Minister Gaston Browne is making a public appeal to young men in Antigua and Barbuda not to get involved in crime and violence.

The prime minister's appeal comes days after three young men were reportedly involved in an armed robbery at a superette in Parham and who were later involved in a shootout with police officers, during which one succumbed to injuries he sustained during the shootout.

Speaking on the Browne and Browne show on Pointe FM radio on Saturday, the prime minister noted that those who pursue a life of crime will certainly pay. He urged young men to avail themselves of the many opportunities that are now available for gainful

employment in the country.

"I want to appeal to these youth, many of whom don't want to engage in productive work, to advise them that crime and violence do not pay and if you continue to engage in crime and violence, you will certainly pay. The unfortunate thing is that you can pay by losing your life. I want to encourage them to find some form of work to do. For example, in the construction sector we have a shortage of workers and you are better off doing construction than to steal \$1,500.00 and to lose your life, as this is what happened to the young man engaged in the shootout last Thursday," he noted.

The prime minister announced that the government is putting together a



Prime Minister Gaston Browne

number of projects that will provide jobs, especially for young men, to carry out specific tasks such as the painting of government offices. This will be implemented through the Ministry of Works.

"We want them to be productive citizens rather than to have them engaging in a life of crime as we want to ensure that we have a safe society. There is

cont'd on pg 5

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A call for stiffer penalties for repeat offenders

With the public outcry over the recent uptick in violent crimes, Prime Minister Gaston Browne is making a strong case for stiffer penalties for repeat offenders who commit gun-related crimes.

Speaking on the Browne and Browne show on Saturday, PM Browne is urging the judiciary to hand out the type of sentences that are ‘reflective of the crimes’ these offenders commit against the society.

“As far as my administration is concerned, anyone who is a repeat offender who is involved in gun-crimes should be given severe penalties. You can’t give hardened criminals ‘soft’ penalties,” he stated.

PM Browne said while he has no authority to direct the judiciary, nonetheless, as head of the government, he can indicate to the judiciary that some of their sentences are much too lenient.

“Many of these indi-

cont’d from pg 4

viduals are known criminals; they are known to law-enforcement, they get involved in criminal activities; are in and out of jail every eighteen months as they get on average two years. I am saying that it is time for the judiciary to step up and to give harsher, longer sentences.

“To the best of my knowledge, we went to parliament some years ago to extend the sentences that can be given to these criminals up to a maximum of ten years. So, I don’t know

why they are limiting themselves to 2-3-year sentences,” he observed.

According to PM Browne if there are any legal impediments, the government is prepared to return to parliament to make the adjustments.

The prime minister disclosed that he has asked the Attorney General, Sir Steadroy Benjamin to convene a meeting with the acting Chief Justice, Mario Mitchel, to discuss the matter.

PM Browne said the is-

sue is one that has been observed in other Caribbean jurisdictions where ‘light’ sentences are handed down to criminals. He revealed that the argument from some in the judiciary is that the human rights of the criminals are considered when sentences are handed down based on prison conditions.

“Since when do the human rights or other rights of criminals take precedence over the rights of law-abiding citizens in the society,” he asked rhetorically.

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Local News



Early detection leads to fall in prostate cancer deaths

The annual prostate cancer screening clinic organized by urologist, Dr. Dwayne Thwaites and Associates in association with the Antigua Lion's Club, took place on Saturday with a total of 730 men participating.

The event takes place in August each year and attracted hundreds of men who are encouraged to submit to the test to determine whether they have issues related to the prostate. The clinic aims to detect any concerns at an early stage so that the doctors may be able to make an intervention.

Dr. Thwaites said this was the 16th consecutive year that the clinic has been

organized and already he has been able to see less late-stage prostate cancer and concurrently this means that there are less deaths from prostate cancer.

“We are seeing less late-stage prostate cancer or even deaths related to the disease and it is our opinion that this is because we are able to detect the disease at an earlier stage thus allowing us to make the proper clinical intervention to save lives,” he stated.

Prostate cancer only affects men, and for years, it was a leading cause of death for men in Antigua and Barbuda. It was the high incidence of these deaths that



prompted Dr. Thwaites to organize the prostate screening clinics annually in an effort to reduce the mortality rate of men from prostate cancer.

The screening involves a blood test to determine the PSA levels in the patient's blood and it is followed by an interview and a physical examination of the prostate itself, which lasts for less than a minute.

Several businesses and entities have contributed annually to the success of the clinic. This year the sponsors include Airport Services Antigua Ltd., Carib-

bean Water Coolers, CIBC Caribbean, Grant Thornton, Hadeed Motors Ltd., Francis Trading Ltd., Splash (Antigua), Harney Motors Ltd., and Medical Benefits Scheme.

Each year, a team of doctors from the United States travels to Antigua to assist with the clinic. They are Doctors Brian Cohen, Daniel Caruso, Christopher Gomez and Oki Akewenna who gave their services freely to the clinic. They were joined by local Urologists Dr. Regine Jackson and Dr. Adrian Rhudd who also participated.



it's time to

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Visit your **Registration Unit** to replace your expired card...



**STARTING
AUGUST 12 2024**



**MONDAY - FRIDAY
8:30 AM - 6:00 PM**

St. John's City West

St. John's City East

St. John's City South

St. John's Rural West

St. John's Rural South

St. John's Rural East

St. John's Rural North

St. Mary's North

St. Mary's South

All Saints East & St. Luke

All Saints West

St. George

St. Peter

St. Philip North

St. Philip South

St. Paul

Barbuda

Villa Primary School

Central Registration Unit, Sir Sydney Walling Highway

Central Registration Unit, Sir Sydney Walling Highway

Multipurpose Cultural & Exhibition Centre

Noel Nyah Roberts Sports Complex

Chaia's Building (opposite the Lions Den)

Yorks Community Centre

Moravian Conference Centre, Cashew Hill

Turner's Apartments, Bolans

Roman Catholic Church Hall, Roman Hill

Former Community Access Centre, All Saints

Registration Unit, Potters Village

Precision Centre, Paynters

Glanvilles Community Centre

St. Philip Post Office

Former Real Local Art Gallery, Horsford Hill

Low School, Barbuda



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Venezuelan elections' observers share findings

Three people who were among more than nine hundred persons invited to Caracas, Venezuela, to observe its July 28 presidential elections, presented their observations at a special gathering last Saturday.

The occasion was a meeting with 'Friends of the Bolivarian Republic' organized in conjunction with the Venezuelan Embassy in St. John's and hosted by the embassy.

Speaking through an interpreter, Venezuelan Ambassador to St. John's, Carmen Velasquez, explained in details the circumstances surrounding the elections, the results of which President Nicolas Maduro was declared the winner with 51.9 percent of the votes cast.

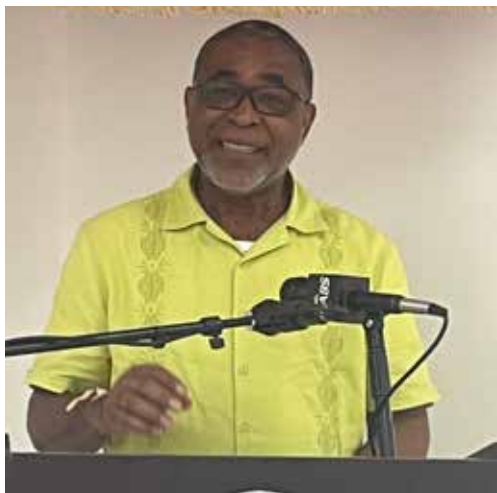
According to Ambassador Velasquez there was an attempt to get all

ten candidates who participated in the presidential elections to sign an agreement indicating their willingness to accept the outcome of the elections prior to the July 28 poll. However, eight of the candidates signed the agreement; two candidates, including the main opposition candidate did not sign the agreement. Instead, she noted, there was an effort to cast doubt on the integrity of the elections ahead of the polling date.

She further explained that the Venezuelan Constitution provides remedies for anyone who feels aggrieved by the outcome of the elections, and while the opposition and their supporters have claimed electoral fraud, there has been no evidence of this submitted to the relevant authorities in Caracas.

Three people who were in Caracas to observe the poll – Blenis Ortiz of the Antigua and Barbuda–Venezuela Friendship Association, Ambassador to Venezuela, Anthony Liverpool and Director of News and Current Affairs, at ABS Radio and Television, Garfield Burford – shared their insights having been on the ground in Venezuela to observe the electoral process.

All three described the process as peaceful, well-managed and highly efficient. Burford made the point that former US President Jimmy Carter



several years ago had described the Venezuelan electoral process as the best he had seen.

The system is fully automated as it is an electronic system that produces a hardcopy of a person's choice for president which is then placed in a box to be counted. At the end of the elections, both the electronic tally and the hardcopies are counted to produce a winner as both versions must show the same results for the outcome to be validated.

Since the elections, there have been protests by opposition forces that have damaged government properties including universities, schools, clinics and other government buildings. There have also been a number of deaths associated with the protests.

There has been much international pressure placed on Venezuela by a number of countries such as the United States which has sided with the opposition forces on the issue.



HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



STARTING
AUGUST 12 2024



MONDAY - FRIDAY
8:30 AM - 6:00 PM

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- ✓ **YOUR EXPIRED VOTER'S ID**
- ✓ **A VALID GOVERNMENT ISSUED ID**
- ✓ **DOCUMENTS UPDATING MARITAL STATUS**
- ✓ **PROOF OF ADDRESS**
(RESIDENCY VERIFICATION MAY BE CONDUCTED)

- ✓ Your demographics may be updated with a new photo, signature, and validated with fingerprints.
- ✓ The updated card will be available from the registration unit within your constituency within two weeks of your application.
- ✓ The expired card will be retained by the registration officer as you receive your replacement card.

***N.B** for persons who have lost their expired ID cards, please present a valid Government issued ID to complete the process.*

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Insane Carnival makes donations

Insane Carnival celebrated its 10th anniversary by making what has been described as ‘a meaningful contribution’ to not only Carnival in Antigua and Barbuda, but also to the community.

The theme for the troupe’s T-shirt mas this year was centered around the fight against breast cancer. As such, the mas troupe embarked on its mission, including their troopers - as they are affectionately referred to - to take to the streets of St. John’s for a worthy cause.

Many troopers have fallen victim to breast cancer and Insane Carnival felt compelled to join the fight this year in this, its milestone year. With this in mind, Insane Carnival, the Insane Army

and Dutty Mas made good their commitment and donated EC\$20,000 to two charities.

The non-profit organization Breast Friends, received EC\$10,000 dollars. Michele Lynch, Secretary, accepted on their behalf.

Cathy Gilkes, Administrator of the St. John Hospice received EC\$10,000 on behalf of that organization.

Insane Carnival then pledged its commitment to adopting the Hospice as their official charity forthwith.

Captain Lenroy Browne shared his vision for the Mas Troupe’s way forward.

“Most of the patients there have

contributed significantly to the development of Antigua and Barbuda and we want them to be in a very comfortable surrounding albeit they are terminally ill. It’s a situation that is very dear to us and we at Insane Carnival are committed to finding ways to make that environment better for the patients who are there. Anything that we can do to make their final days more comfortable and anything that can make them at peace, that will be our aim for the St. John Hospice.”

Public Relations Manager, Patrice Martin, made the donations to both organizations.

Police mourn passing of a female officer

The Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda is mourning the death of a female officer, who died over the weekend at the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre following what has been described as ‘a brief illness’.

The Commissioner of Police Atlee Rodney joined members of the constabulary in mourning the death of Con-

stable Sandra Browne-Peters. Constable Peters died shortly after 7am on Saturday, August 17 at the Emergency Room of Sir Lester Bird Medical Center, following a brief illness. She was 49 years old.

Commissioner of Police, Rodney expressed deepest sympathies to her immediate family, colleagues, and close

friends on behalf of the Police Force, as they mourn her passing.

Constable Browne-Peters is described as one who had a friendly personality and was a diligent worker. She last worked at the Criminal Investigations Department prior to becoming ill. She will be greatly missed by her colleagues and friends.

Author Leo Buscaglia wrote, “I know for certain that we never lose the people we love, even to death.

“They continue to participate in every act, thought and decision we make. Their love leaves an indelible imprint in our memories.”

Further details of her funeral will be announced at a later date.

Remembering Marcus Garvey

"A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots." —Marcus Garvey

Born Marcus Mosiah Garvey on August 17, 1887, in St Ann's Bay, Garvey was one of 11 children of Marcus Garvey Sr and Sarah Jane Richards.

He attended school in Jamaica until the age of 14.

He was an apprentice in a print shop before he left Jamaica for Costa Rica and later London, where he studied law and philosophy at Birkbeck College in Bloomsbury.

Garvey returned to Jamaica in 1927. He would set up several pan-Africanism movements before returning to London.

Marcus Garvey was the father of the black nationalist and pan african movements, activist & founder of the Universal Negro Improvement Association and African Communities League (UNIA-ACL)

He advanced a Pan-African philosophy which inspired a global mass movement, known as Garveyism. Garveyism would eventually inspire others, from the Nation of Islam to the Rastafari movement.



AfricanArchives

He also created The Pan-African/ Black Liberation flag.

In January 1940, he suffered a stroke which left him paralysed. He died on June 10, 1940, at the age of 52 from a second stroke.

Antigua & Barbuda Electoral Commission																											
OFFICIAL REPORT																											
AUGUST 2024 - WEEK: 12TH - 16TH																											
#	COUNSTITUENCY	12th August					Total	13th August, 2024		14th August, 2024					15th August, 2024					16th August, 2024					Week's Total		
		POLLING DISVISION						ING DISV		POLLING DISVISION					POLLING DISVISION												
		A	B	C	D	E	A	B	A	B	C	D	E	Total	A	B	C	D	E	Total	A	B	C	D	E	Total	
1	ST. JOHN'S CITY WEST	10	29						0	0	0			0	5	21				26	4	26				30	95
2	ST. JOHN'S CITY EAST	1	9						0	1	8			9	1	5				6	1	6				7	32
3	ST. JOHN'S CITY SOUTH	1	4	1	10				0	1	2	1	4	8	0	1	2	2		5	2		1	8		11	40
4	ST. JOHN'S RURAL WEST	8	13	0					0	5	11	0		16					0	18	25	3				46	83
5	ST. JOHN'S RURAL SOUTH	4	9	10					0	8	3	7		18	7	6	8		21	4	12	11				27	89
6	ST. JOHN'S RURAL EAST	20	17						0	22	22			44	21	14			35	15	14					29	145
7	ST. JOHN'S RURAL NORTH	21	10						0	28	18			46	22	18			40	24	8					32	149
8	ST. MARY'S NORTH	6	6	1	12				0	0	0	0	0	0	2	8	2	8	20	6	5	2	21			34	79
9	ST. MARY'S SOUTH	24	2	6					0	18	1	1		20	8		1		9	20	1	2				23	84
10	ALL SAINTS EAST AND ST. LUKE	11	13	1	1				0	12	9	1	6	28	11	9	4	4	28	7	5	1	2			15	97
11	ALL SAINTS WEST	13	2	6	6	0			0	4	0	5	9	3	21				0	6	2	1	4	2		15	63
12	ST. GEORGE	12	2	29					0	3	7	12		22	5	3	14		22	7	11	26				44	131
13	ST. PETER	32	2	0					0	16	2	2		20	24	2	6		32	11	1	2				14	100
14	ST. PHILIP NORTH	5	12	5					0	6	9	0		15	9	13	2		24	6	6	2				14	75
15	ST. PHILIP SOUTH	1	0	4					0	0	0	0		0	0	1	1		0	1	1					2	7
16	ST. PAUL	9	20						0	10	5			15	8	12			20	10	11					21	85
17	BARBUDA	0							0	0	0			0	0				0	0						0	0
		Daily Replacement Applications Count					420	0		282					288	@5:40pm					364	1354					
		Daily New Applications Count					10			11					9						13	43					

Opinion



Did you know that how...?

By Tony Deyal

At the funeral of the company's boss, a disgruntled employee knelt next to the coffin and whispered, "Who's thinking outside the box now, Gary?" A cartoonist was found dead in his home – the details are sketchy. What is well known from the fifth century BC, a Greek painter, Zeuxis, died laughing at the humorous way in which he painted an old woman. Two centuries after, Chrysippus died of laughing after he saw a donkey eating his fermented figs. He told a slave to give the donkey undiluted wine to wash them down and he laughed till he died. Since then, it never stopped. This is why I started today's column with a warning. If you feel you will die laughing, or laugh dying, pack it up and read the papers to see if you were the most recent. It will be very decent of you to do that.

If you think laughing could pack you up, crying is worse. One father took his eight year-old girl to his office on the 'Take Your Kid to Work Day'. As they were walking around the office, the youngster started crying and getting very upset. Her father asked her what was wrong and, with all the workers, including the boss, around them, the child crying loudly shouted loudly, "Daddy, where are all the clowns you said that you worked with here?" Another father cried like a bride at a wedding, even though he didn't have the same problem as the bride. All the brides I know cry because they never marry the best man. One joke I like is, "If you boil a funny bone, it becomes a laughingstock." Now that's pretty humorous, but still not as good as the reason the ancient Egyptians cried. They missed their mummies. Now, if you're like me but you don't have a machine to help you sleep without snoring and waking up

everybody in the neighbourhood, remember the saying I got from my doctor and my wife, "Laugh and the world laughs with you. Snore and you sleep alone."

As in my wife's case, the only option she had when my snoring started was to read the "Did You Know That How ... ?" books I had around or my jokes (what we in the Caribbean call "old-talk") when I was awake. Fortunately, she never got upset or tell me she didn't give a fact or tell me to go and fact myself. I used to tell her, "You heard the priest say that money is the root of all evil, but what about the branch? I think they are the police stations all over the Caribbean." And talking about 'root', there is Joe Root, the cricketer, who hits everybody for six. But, for me, the root becomes a 'tree-some' for men and/or women trios, or for criminals who get jailed for 'treason' and a daughter or two. This is the price for not paying child support.

What the books have is even more incredible. Chainsaws were first invented in Scotland in the late 18th century for childbirth! It was used to help and speed up the process for widening the pubic cartilage and reduce disease-laden bone during childbirth. Roller coasters were invented to distract Americans from sin. In the 1880s, a businessman, LaMarcus Thompson, was upset that Yanks were tempted by hedonistic places like saloons and brothels. He set up Coney Island with the first roller coaster in New York. Now, if you've even been there, you will know that he did the right thing for the wrong reason. I think it is the way "Coney" was and continues to be pronounced.

One I found funny and sad at the same time is that, before toilet tissue was invented, Americans used corn cobs. In our days of poverty, then and



Tony Deyal

for a long time after, people in the Caribbean used newspapers for reading in the 'John'. This was a UK slang referring to Sir John Harrington, who invented the flushing toilet in the 1500s. Actually, there's a toilet museum in New Delhi, India, with a rare and rear collection that details the historic evolution of toilets from 2500 BC. One of these is an Australian toilet shaped like a lion. Now, even though I am a born Leo, I am not lion-hearted enough to try that. If anything, I prefer cornflakes which were invented to suppress sexual impulses and desires.

That is because of corny jokes like, "I told my wife she should embrace her mistakes. So, she gave me a hug." I was lucky it was not a hog. An old joke that's still a goodie is the one about the shipment of Viagra which was stolen yesterday by a gang of old men. Police are now on the lookout for these hardened criminals. At the same time, someone found a hole in the nudist colony fence and the police are looking into it. One of my favourite off-key jokes in my cornflake continent is the one about Mary who was late for school and the principal wanted to know why. She explained that she had to take their cow to the neighbours so that their bull could get their cow pregnant. The principal asked, "Couldn't your father do that?" Mary replied, "Sir, I suppose he could, but I think the bull has more experience."

cont'd on pg 13

Grenada's Olympic team receives hero's welcome home

By Melissa Wong

Pride and jubilation in Grenada as a welcome home ceremony and motorcade was held this weekend for Grenada's Olympians who recently competed at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

Lindon Victor won bronze in the Decathlon, Anderson Peters won bronze in the Javelin throw and Kirani James finished fifth in the 400 metres final. Sprinter Halle Hazzard as well as swimmers Tilly Collymore and Zachary Gresham were acknowledged for their efforts. Prime Minister Dickon Mitchell praised the Olympians for inspiring generations of Grenadians to come, saying they have made their country proud.

"Our nation owes you an immense debt of gratitude especially at this time in our existence where in the midst of celebrating our 50th anniversary as an independent nation we've been dealt a pretty bad



Olympic finalists welcomed home: L-R: Javelin bronze medallist Anderson Peters; Three time Olympic medallist Kirani James; Governor-General of Grenada, Dame Cécile La Grenade; Prime Minister Dickon Mitchell; and Bronze medallist in the Decathlon, Lindon Victor. (Photo credit: GIS Grenada).

blow by a grand aunt named Beryl," said Mitchell.

At the reception, three-time Olympic medallist and four-time Olympic finalist, Kirani James, thanked the public for their support as he said he has been doing this for a while now and the support has never wavered.

James said it truly means a lot to him to go to his fourth Olympics and still have that feeling of joy to stay motivated to represent his country.

Javelin bronze medallist, Anderson Peters, thanked the entire nation for allowing him to represent the country. He said: "It doesn't matter which

part of the world we are as an athlete, home is where the heart is."

Bronze medallist in the Decathlon, Lindon Victor, said it was a pleasure to represent and put Grenada on the map once more. He said the welcome home for the athletes has been well-received.

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We all had less experience in our schooldays. We used to play a game called 'Police and Thief' and it took us too long to realise there was no difference between them. We then ended that game and started one called 'Rescue'. While they say "a stitch in time saves nine", our school principal preferred a stick in time and shaved our butts more times than nine. I always got a hiding for hiding books written by P.G. Wodehouse or written about Mike and Smith or Jennings. I used to be thrown out of the class and this "punishment" allowed me to continue

reading. What my parents and teachers didn't know is that those who use humour have better relationships with their children, and even much better children who loved to read.

From the books, I found out that a crocodile cannot stick its tongue out, a shrimp's heart is in his head, pigs cannot look up in the sky, and bats aren't blind. A biologist, trying to show off his knowledge, told this to a bartender who immediately replied, "That makes sense. That must be why Joe Root, Brian Lara, Chris Gayle and Garry Sobers were so good!" This is like the recent surveys and studies which have shown

that Bee Keepers are the best Match Makers because beauty is in the eyes of the Bee-Holder. In learning facts like these, I found out that there are over 10,000 different types of life - and that's just off the top of my head! It is like when a police detective asked his colleague, "Why do you keep bringing Quasimodo? He doesn't have any real facts or information." The response was clear, "Say what you will about him but he's always got a hunch."

Tony Deyal was last heard saying that he was just reading an article on 10 facts about diarrhoea. Number 2 will surprise all of you.

Guyana, Suriname issue joint international appeal for restraint in Venezuela

CMC- Caribbean Community (CARICOM) member-countries Guyana and Suriname have joined a strong international appeal for “wisdom and restraint” in the Venezuela crisis.

Meeting in Santo Domingo, the capital of the Dominican Republic, the two CARICOM member-countries on Friday joined the Dominican Republic and 17 other countries, as well as the European Union (EU), in expressing strong concern in a joint statement about the political crisis in Venezuela since the much-disputed July 28 presidential election.

“At this decisive juncture for Venezuela and the region, all social and political actors must exercise the utmost restraint in their public actions,” said the joint statement, which was also signed by Argentina, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, the Czech Republic, Ecuador, Spain, Guatemala, Italy, Morocco, Netherlands, Panamá, Paraguay, Perú, Portugal, Uruguay and the United States.

“Acceptance and respect for the dignity and integrity of all individuals are the essential principles upon which the peaceful coexistence in our societies is built,” the statement added. “We urge for the respect of democratic principles, as well as the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all Venezuelans, particularly the freedom of peaceful assembly and the



Venezuela protests (Photo via: CMC)

freedom of expression.”

The 21 countries, including the EU, said they were “concerned that this reality currently does not exist in Venezuela,” stating that reports of arbitrary detentions of Venezuelans without due process are “alarming.”

They, therefore, urgently called for the immediate release of detained Venezuelans.

The signatories also expressed deep condemnation of the repression of protesters and the violence that has claimed the lives of many Venezuelans in the post-election context, calling on Venezuelan authorities to urgently end the violence and release all those who have been detained, including opposition representatives.

Furthermore, they requested the immediate return of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to Venezuela, and called on Venezuela

to ensure the necessary conditions for it to fully carry out its mandate.

In addition, the signatories called on Venezuela, as a state party to the Caracas Convention on Diplomatic Asylum of 1954, to comply with its provision by issuing the safe passage that will allow the six asylum seekers currently residing in the official residence of Argentina to safely leave Venezuelan territory.

The 20 countries and the EU took note of the preliminary report by the United Nations Expert Panel on the presidential election in Venezuela, which indicates that the National Electoral Council (CNE) of Venezuela has yet to present the electoral records that substantiate the validity of the results announced on August 2.

The countries and the EU also noted that a digital version of more than 80 percent of the electoral records

has been published, “which shows a different outcome than that reported by the CNE.”

“Consequently, we request the immediate publication of all original records and the impartial and independent verification of those results, preferably by an international entity, to ensure respect for the will of the Venezuelan people as expressed at the polls,” they said. “Any delay in this process calls into question the August 2, 2024, official proclamation.”

Stating that these nations and the EU have previously appealed for peaceful dialogue and negotiations to resolve serious conflicts in Venezuela, they said that, “Now more than ever, Venezuela must honor that legacy to restore peaceful coexistence, public safety and political stability, which, according to accounts by the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela of the UN Human Rights Council, are being threatened by the Venezuelan security authorities.

“The current situation calls for a broad, inclusive and good-faith dialogue to facilitate a political agreement that fosters national reconciliation, peace, public security and democracy in Venezuela,” the countries said.

cont'd on pg 15

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“We are committed to supporting all efforts in this direction, and always advocating for a genuinely Venezuelan solution in which democracy and justice, and peace and security will prevail,” they added.

Earlier this month, the United States congratulated Venezuelan opposition leader Edmundo González Urrutia for receiving the most votes in Venezuela’s July 28 presidential election as documented by what Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken described as “the democratic opposition’s extensive efforts to ensure a transparent accounting of the votes.”

US Department of State Spokesperson Matthew Miller said that Blinken, who also spoke with Venezuela’s opposition member María Corina Machado, “expressed his concern for their safety and well-being following the election and condemned all political violence and repression.

“The Secretary applauded the Venezuelan people for their dedication to democracy in the face of significant challenges and reaffirmed the United States’ commitment to supporting the process of re-establishing democratic norms in Venezuela,” Miller said.

Blinken said that at least 12 million Venezuelans “peacefully went to the polls and exercised one of the most powerful rights given to people in any democracy: the right to vote.

“Unfortunately, the processing of those votes and the announcement of results by the Maduro-controlled National Electoral Council (CNE) were deeply flawed, yielding an announced outcome that does not represent the will of the Venezuelan people,” he said.

“The CNE’s rapid declaration of Nicolás Maduro as the winner of the presidential election came with no supporting evidence,” he added. “The CNE still has not published disaggregated data or any of the vote tally sheets, despite repeated calls from Venezuelans

and the international community to do so.

“As the independent Carter Center’s observation mission reported, the CNE’s failure to provide the precinct-level official results, as well as irregularities throughout the process, have stripped the CNE’s announced outcome of any credibility,” continued Blinken, stating that the “democratic opposition” has, in the interim, published more than 80 percent of the tally sheets received directly from polling stations throughout Venezuela.

“Those tally sheets indicate that Edmundo González Urrutia received the most votes in this election by an insurmountable margin,” the US Secretary of State said. “Independent observers have corroborated these facts, and this outcome was also supported by election day exit polls and quick counts.”

In the days since the election, Miller said the Biden administration has consulted widely with partners and allies around the world, “and while countries have taken different approaches in responding, none have concluded that Nicolás Maduro received the most votes this election.

“Given the overwhelming evidence, it is clear to the United States and, most importantly, to the Venezuelan people that Edmundo González Urrutia won the most votes in Venezuela’s July 28 presidential election,” he said.

Meantime, the G7 Foreign Ministers of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, and the High Representative of the European Union have expressed “solidarity with the people of Venezuela, who peacefully exercised their right to vote in large numbers on Jul. 28 to shape the future of their country.”

They noted that independent domestic and international observers’ reports have raised “serious concerns about the announced results of Venezuela’s Presidential elections and about the way the

electoral process was conducted, especially regarding the irregularities and lack of transparency in the final tabulation of the votes.

“It is of paramount importance that the result reflects the will of the Venezuelan people,” said the G7 Foreign Ministers in a statement. “We call on relevant representatives to publish the detailed electoral results in full transparency, and we ask electoral representatives to immediately share all information with the opposition and independent observers.

“As the process unfolds, we call for maximum restraint in the country and for a peaceful, democratic and Venezuelan-led solution,” they added.

The United Nations also said that its Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Venezuela had voiced “deep concern” over reports of human rights abuses following the presidential election in Venezuela.

The UN said the mission has received “credible accounts of detentions, injuries and fatalities linked to violence by security forces and armed civilian groups, known as colectivos, in the wake of President Nicolás Maduro’s declared victory.”

The UN noted that the National Electoral Council announced incumbent President Nicolás Maduro as the winner, “sparking nationwide protests.”

Mission Chair Marta Valiñas stressed the need for public order operations to adhere to international human rights standards, insisting that “the use of force must be proportional and aimed at safeguarding human life.”

Meanwhile, the Washington-headquartered Organization of American States (OAS) said that the Office of the Secretary General has received a report from the Department of Electoral Cooperation and Observation regarding the presidential electoral process in Venezuela in 2024.

“The obligation of each institution
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Regional News



cont'd from pg 15

in Venezuela should be to ensure freedom, justice and transparency in the electoral process,” the OAS said. “The people should have the maximum guarantees of political freedom to be able to express themselves at the polls, and to protect the rights of citizens to be elected.

“Throughout this entire electoral process, we saw the application by the Venezuelan regime of its repressive scheme complemented by actions aimed at completely distorting the electoral result, making that result available to the most aberrant manipulation,” it added. “This continues.”

Last week, the London-based Amnesty International sent an open letter to the prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, Karim Khan, calling for urgent action on the commission of crimes under international law in Ven-

ezuela.

“Prosecutor Karim Khan’s silence in the face of the crisis in Venezuela is alarming,” said Erika Guevara-Rosas, Amnesty International’s senior director of research, advocacy, policy and campaigns. “His office has witnessed the deaths of dozens of people at the hands of security forces and pro-government armed groups, as well as the arbitrary detention of more than 2,000 people in a matter of days, just for opposing or being perceived to oppose Nicolás Maduro’s government.

“On top of that, we’ve seen attacks, threats and the stigmatization of human rights defenders and civil society organisations that expose the government’s arbitrary actions, and who look to the Office of the Prosecutor as a last resort for justice,” she added. “This tragedy is a consequence of the impunity for serious human rights violations and crimes

against humanity that Maduro’s government has been committing for years.

“However, the current increase in the scale and gravity of the acts being carried out against the Venezuelan people demands an urgent acceleration of the investigation into the situation in the country,” Guerrero-Rosas continued. “In concrete terms, we expect the prosecutor to issue a preventive statement as a warning to the perpetrators of possible international crimes and human rights violations.

“We also call on him to publicly support Venezuelan NGOs (non-governmental organizations) and human rights defenders, and to condemn the attacks against those who are being targeted for their tireless work for justice,” she said. “Now more than ever, we need the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court to take resolute and immediate action.”

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CALVINAIR HELICOPTERS

France seizes three Nigerian jets for Chinese firm

By Wedaeli Chibelushi

A French court has seized three jets owned by the Nigerian government amid a long-standing dispute with a Chinese company.

The row stems from a 2007 contract between Zhongshan Fucheng Industrial Investment and Nigeria's south-western Ogun State to develop a free-trade zone where a massive industrial park was to be developed to attract investors.

The agreement was terminated between 2015 and 2016. According to the Financial Times, Zhongshan said it was forced out of the deal through a "campaign of illegal acts".

The authorities in Nigeria have fiercely condemned the seizure of its planes, suggesting Zhongshan had a sole objective of "undercutting and scamming" an African government.

A total of three presidential planes have been grounded in France after Zhongshan obtained orders from the Judicial Court of Paris.

The planes were receiving "routine maintenance" at the time, Nigeria's government said.

In a statement by spokesperson Bayo Onanuga, Nigeria's presidential office accused Zhongshan of mounting a wider campaign to seize its assets overseas.

"This arm-twisting tactic by the Chinese company is the latest in a long list of failed moves to attach Nigerian government-owned assets in foreign jurisdictions," he said.

In March 2021 an arbitration tribunal - chaired by the president of the UK Supreme Court - awarded \$74.5m (£57.8m) in compensation to the Chinese firm. Ogun State reportedly refused to pay this amount.

Nigerian-owned buildings in the British city of Liverpool were recently seized by a UK court in relation to the



The three Nigerian presidential jets that have been impounded were in France for routine maintenance.

same dispute, Nigerian newspaper Premium Times reported.

Last Friday, the United States Court of Appeals ruled that Zhongshan could proceed with its efforts to confiscate Nigeria's assets abroad. The court also rejected Nigeria's defence of "sovereign immunity".

On Thursday, Nigeria accused Zhongshan of misrepresenting facts to courts in the UK, the US and France.

Mr Onanuga said that when the Ogun State contract was revoked, Zhongshan had done no more than erect a perimeter fence on the land earmarked for the free-trade zone.

A free-trade zone is an area where goods can be moved in and out of a country for reduced or no taxes or fees.

Other such zones exist in Nigeria, such as one in Lagos where the Dangote Petroleum Refinery - built by Africa's richest man, Aliko Dangote - has recently opened.

In a statement issued to Nigerian media, Zhongshan said: "Far from being just a fence, the Ogun Free Trade Zone was featured as a significant international investment by the Economist Intelli-

gence Unit."

The Nigerian authorities sought to assure its people that it was working to discharge the French court's "frivolous order".

"Nigerian government will always work to protect our national assets from predators and shylocks who masquerade as investors," the statement said.

The regional government in Ogun State released a similar statement, accusing Zhongshan of making a "series of ill-advised attempts" to seize Nigerian assets.

China is Nigeria's largest import partner and the two have strong trade relations.

The situation has also renewed public debate about whether President Bola Tinubu should have multiple, taxpayer-funded jets when ordinary Nigerians struggle against an intense economic crisis.

Peter Obi, an opposition politician who unsuccessfully ran for president in 2023, said the news of three jets being seized was "embarrassing" and exposed an "insensitivity to the plight of the growing poor class in our midst".

US pushes for Gaza truce as Israel and Hamas trade blame

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken has arrived in Israel in his latest effort to push for a ceasefire and hostage-release deal in Gaza.

His ninth trip to the region since the war began in October comes days after the US presented a modified proposal aimed at bridging long-standing gaps between the two sides.

The US has expressed optimism about a deal since talks resumed in Doha last week, but Hamas says suggestions of progress are an “illusion”.

Differences are said to include whether Israeli troops will be required to withdraw fully from the Gaza Strip, as Hamas insists.

Mr Blinken will attempt to maintain pressure on the Israeli leader when they meet on Monday - he will say that now is the moment to drop any more attempts to squeeze out last concessions and take a deal.

On the way here one senior US official was using phrases including a critical moment and an inflection point.

The Americans hope they can get this over the finish line perhaps as soon as this time next week.

But that level of optimism is not shared by the Israeli leadership or Hamas.

Each accuses the other of obstinate cynicism, and



There has only been only one truce in the months-long conflict which has killed thousands.

blocking a deal.

In a statement on Sunday, Hamas accused Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of putting “obstacles” in the way of an agreement and “setting new conditions and demands” with the aim of “prolonging the war”.

It added it holds him “fully responsible” for thwarting mediators’ efforts and “obstructing an agreement”.

A Hamas source earlier told Saudi media that the proposals include the IDF maintaining a reduced presence along the Philadelphi Corridor, a narrow strip of land along Gaza’s southern border with Egypt.

But Israeli sources have told the Times of Israel that other procedures along the border could compensate for an Israeli withdrawal

from the area in the first phase of the deal.

The Israeli military launched a campaign in Gaza to destroy Hamas in response to an unprecedented attack on southern Israel on 7 October, during which about 1,200 people were killed and 251 taken hostage.

More than 40,000 people have been killed in Gaza since then, according to the territory’s Hamas-run health ministry.

A ceasefire deal agreed in November saw Hamas release 105 of the hostages in return for a week-long ceasefire and the freeing of some 240 Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails. Israel says 111 hostages are still being held, 39 of whom are presumed dead.

US President Joe Biden said earlier this week “we

are closer than we have ever been” to a deal.

But previous optimism expressed during months of on-off talks has proven unfounded.

Mr Netanyahu told a cabinet meeting on Sunday that complex negotiations were taking place to secure the return of hostages, but some principles needed to be upheld for Israel’s security.

“There are things we can be flexible about, and there are things we cannot be flexible about, and we insist on them. We know very well how to differentiate between the two,” he said.

He also accused Hamas of being “obstinate” in negotiations and called for further pressure to be applied on the militant group.

A senior Hamas official

cont’d on pg 19

Bullets claim second win in Parham Super League

Defending champions Pigotts Bullets recorded their second successive win in defense of their title in the second annual Parham Super League on Saturday.

After securing a one-nil win against the Attacking Saints in their second outing, the Bullets recorded their second win in three matches with a 4-3 victory against Parham in the final game of a triple header at the Parham playing field.

Tyrique Thwaites scored twice, and Shakimba Williams and Jamarlie Stevens each converted once for the Bullets. Williams also scored an own goal, and Denie Henry and Kenja Benjamin each had a conversion for Parham.

Garden Stars and Willikies also recorded wins in the other two matches on Saturday.

Garden Stars defeated Freeman's Village 4-1, with Kemoi Walsh scoring twice and Allan Martin and



Pigotts Bullets, the defending champions of the Parham Super League

Wilden Cornwall Jr. each converting once for the team from Liberta.

Josue "Naymar" Arias scored a consolation goal for Freeman's Village.

Willikies romped to a four-nil victory against the Attacking Saints. The

goals were scored by Nasim Thomas, Novelle Francis Jr., Kwami Byers, and Dez-jamatch Christian for Willikies.

Twenty-four hours earlier, All Saints United pulled off a 2-0 victory against John Hughes. Tyrique "Cas-

tro" Hughes and Dorian Cole were the goal scorers.

Greenbay Hoppers romped to a 7-0 drubbing of SAP FC, who were last year's losing finalists.

Kareem Martin struck a hat-trick, Jari Jackson had a double conversion, and the other goals were scored by Javorn Stevens and Rohan Harris.

The second annual Parham Super League, which is organized by Eastboys Promotions, is featuring 12 teams this year.

The 12 teams, an increase of four teams, are competing in two zones, with the winner taking home a grand prize of EC\$5,000.

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told the BBC on Saturday: "What we have received from the mediators is very disappointing. There has been no progress."

It is possible the public statements of defiance are mainly a negotiating tactic - but there is such significant enmity and distrust here that a week feels very optimistic for a breakthrough.

And the US pressure also has the timing of Washington's electoral politics in the background. It feels like the countdown

clock for a deal is ticking that bit faster for the Americans than it has been for the two sides in this agreement.

Meanwhile, the Hamas-run health authority in Gaza says Israeli air strikes killed at least 21 people including six children on Sunday.

The IDF said on Sunday it had destroyed rocket launchers used to hit Israel from the southern Gaza city of Khan Younis, the scene of intense fighting in recent weeks, and killed 20 Palestinians.

Sam Billings joins Antigua & Barbuda Falcons for 2024 CPL season

Sam Billings will be part of the Antigua and Barbuda Falcons squad for the 2024 Republic Bank Caribbean Premier League (CPL). The England international will replace Afghanistan's Azmatullah Omarzai, who is no longer available for this year's event.

Billings has played more than 300 T20 matches around the world having played for teams in England, India, Australia and Pakistan. With more than 6,000 runs in T20s, he will bring fire power and experience to the Falcons line up.

The Antigua & Barbuda Falcons are a new franchise for the 2024 season and will be playing in the tournament's opening match against their closest rivals, St Kitts and Nevis Patriots, at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in Antigua on August 29.



Sam Billings

CWI announces Windies T20I squad for series against South Africa

Cricket West Indies (CWI) on Sunday announced the West Indies men's squad for the T20 International (T20I) series against South Africa, which is scheduled to take place from August 23 – 27 in Trinidad and Tobago.

All three matches in the T20I Series against South Africa will take place at the Brian Lara Cricket Academy in Trinidad on August 23, 25, and 27.

All matches will start at 3 pm local time and will be part of doubleheaders with the Massy Women's Caribbean Premier League (WCPL).

This will be the first time that West Indies men's internationals will be part of a doubleheader with a women's franchise competition, with cricket fans able to see the best male and female players taking part in matches on the same ticket.

The WCPL takes place at the Brian Lara Cricket Academy in Trinidad between August 21 and 29.

Miles Bascombe, Director of Cricket, stated, "Andre Russell, requested a period of rest and recovery as well as Jason Holder who played five back-to-back Tests against England and South Africa.

"Moreover, we made the determination to continue Alzarri Joseph on his period of rest. In addition, Brandon King remains in rehabilitation from an injury sustained during the World Cup. During this period, they all will work closely with the CWI science and medicine team."

Noting South Africa ended the West Indies' World Cup campaign with a defeat in the Super 8s, overturning the 3-0 result from the pre-World Cup series in Jamaica, Head Coach Daren Sammy remarked, "Facing a strong South Africa side is an excellent opportunity for

our team to reset and refocus with our game plan.

"We have played them recently and had mixed results, so this should be an exciting and important series.

"I'm confident in the squad we've selected, and with eyes already on the next T20 World Cup in 2026, I know the guys will be keen to show their hunger for success."

The West Indies Men's T20 team have won four of their last five series, and just missed out on a semi-final place at the recently concluded ICC Men's T20

cont'd on pg 21

Leewards make losing start to regional Under-17 men's two-day championship



UNDER 19s CHAMPIONSHIP

The Leeward Islands made a losing start to their campaign in the Cricket West Indies (CWI) Rising Stars Under-17 Men's Two-Day Championship in Trinidad and Tobago on Thursday.

The Leeward Islands tumbled to a 71-run defeat against the Windward Islands in their opening affair at Gilbert Park.

Set a victory target of 172, the Leeward Islands were dismissed for 100 in 50.2 overs in their second innings.

Middle-order batsman J'Quan Athanaze hit 33 not out, fellow Antiguan captain Tanez Francis made 22, and De-Antre Drew got 19. Medium pacer Cody Fontenelle grabbed five for 33.

The Windwards made 134 off 65 overs in their first innings, with opener

Lluvio Charles hitting 50. Isra-el Morton claimed three for 25, and Antiguan leg-spinner Micah McKenzie took three for 37.

In reply, the Leewards were bundled out for 64 in 29.4 overs in their first innings, with Tanez Francis getting 37. Cody Fontenelle snapped up four for 21.

After gaining a lead of 70 runs, the Windward Islands declared their second innings at 101 for seven off 39.5 overs, setting the Leewards 172 runs for victory.

Earsinho Fontaine struck 33 and Cody Grant made 22. Micah McKenzie captured three for 41.

In the other first round two-day matches, defending champions Barbados launched their title defense with an innings and 48-run victory against Jamaica at the National Cricket Center, and host Trinidad and Tobago played to a draw with Guyana at Inshan Ali Park.

Scores: Jamaica Under-17s 103 and 85, Barbados Under-17s 236 for seven; and Trinidad and Tobago Under-17s 202 and 151 for nine, Guyana Under-17s 183 and 31 for two.

cont'd from pg 20

World Cup that was hosted in the Caribbean.

In the ICC Men's T20I Team Rankings, the West Indies are number four and South Africa are number five.

West Indies T20I squad: Rovman Powell (captain), Roston Chase (vice-captain), Alick Athanaze, Fabian Allen, Johnson Charles, Matthew Forde, Shimron Hetmyer, Shai Hope, Akeal Hosein, Shamar Joseph, Obed McCoy, Gudakesh Motie,

Nicholas Pooran, Sherfane Rutherford, and Romario Shepherd.

The team management unit for the series: Head Coach Daren Sammy; Assistant Coaches Rayon Griffith, Floyd Reifer, and Ramesh Subasinghe; Physiotherapist Denis Byam; Strength and Conditioning Coach Ronald Rogers; Team Masseur Fitzbert Alleyne; Team Manager Rawl Lewis; Team Analyst Avenesh Seetaram; and Team Media and Content Officer John Phillips.

Benna Boys make winning start to CFU's Under-14 Boys Challenge Series

Antigua and Barbuda's Benna Boys have made a successful start to their campaign in the Caribbean Football Union (CFU) Under-14 Challenge Series in Trinidad and Tobago.

Antigua and Barbuda snatched a 2-1 win over Guyana in Tier II Group A play in the opening match of the tournament at the Larry Gomes Stadium on Friday.

The Benna Boys commanded the ball early in the match, and captain She-mar Walters put Antigua and Barbuda ahead with a second-minute conversion. But Guyana equalized via a Mark Glasgow conversion in the 15th minute.

The Benna Boys regained the lead, which they never relinquished, when Luke Harney Rogerson scored the winner in the 21st minute.

No goals were scored in the second half as Antigua and Barbuda continued to dominate possession for most of the match.

They heavily attacked Guyana's defense line, keeping them on their toes. Guyana tried their best to get the ball out of their half and up the field, but Antigua and Barbuda's defense displayed composure and patience, denying the



Players of Guyana (green uniform) and Antigua battle for possession of the ball during their match in the Caribbean Football Union Under-14 Challenge Series at the Larry Gomes Stadium in Trinidad on Friday, August 16, 2024. (CFU Media)

Guyanese access anywhere close to their 18-yard box.

Barbados also made an impressive start in Tier II Group A play by romping to a 6-2 victory against St. Vincent and the Grenadines in their opening match of the tournament at the Larry Gomes Stadium.

Barbados captain Jamarco Johnson scored a hat-trick to star in his

team's 6-2 win over Guyana, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines prevailed 4-2 against the Cayman Islands in their second round encounters on Saturday.

Bermuda dominated the first match of Tier II Group C with a 4-0 victory against Grenada at Ato Boldon Stadium.

Bonaire secured a 2-1 hard-fought victory over St.

Lucia in the other opening round encounter in Tier II, Group C, at the Ato Boldon Stadium. Bermuda crushed Bonaire 5-0 in their second encounter on Saturday.

The Turks and Caicos Islands recorded a comfortable 3-1 win over Anguilla when the teams met in Tier II, Group B action at the Hasely Crawford Stadium.

cont'd on pg 23

Bajan Ballers dominate invitational basketball tournament

The visiting Bajan Ballers of Barbados continued their dominance of the Under-15 Youth Summer Basketball Splash Invitational, which is being hosted by the Mahijah Davis Basketball Academy (MDBA) on Saturday night.

After winning their previous two matches in the four-team round-robin competition, the Bajan Ballers surged to their third successive victory by beating the Mahijah Davis Basketball Academy Shooters 72-32 at the JSC Sports Complex.

Jelani Marshall produced 22 points, six assists, and six steals; Jerome Arthur had 18 points, six rebounds, and six steals; Isaac Griffin contributed 16 points, nine rebounds, and six assists; and Rhys Cozier had 23 rebounds and four steals for the Bajans.

Najee Simons had 10 points, nine rebounds, and five blocks, and Yohan Nicholas chipped in with seven points, seven rebounds, and four block shots for the MDBA Shoot-

ers.

The Bajan Ballers romped to an emphatic 87-23 victory against the Mahijah Davis Basketball Academy's (MDBA) second team, which was thrust into the tournament as a replacement for Gray's Greene Phoenix that pulled out of the competition at the last minute.

Isaac Griffith converted 20 points and claimed six steals; Jelani Marshall had 19 points and five steals; and Kemani Maynard scored 12 points and grabbed five steals for the Bajans. Eli Harris sank nine points and snatched 10 rebounds for the MDBA's second team.



The Bajans also coasted to a 71-23 victory against the Guy Yearwood Ballers of Villa in the opening game of the four-team round-robin tournament at the Ottos Basketball Court on Friday.

Kemani Maynard produced 15 points and four steals; Jelani Marshall had 12 points and six rebounds; and Ari Mottley-Squires chipped in with 10 points and four rebounds for the Bajan Ballers.

Ezekiel Burke had seven points and four rebounds, and Yeah Pierre produced six points, five steals, and four rebounds for the Guy Yearwood Ballers.

Guy Yearwood Ballers

prevailed 40-34 against the MDBA's second team. Justin Carr produced 14 points, 15 rebounds, and four steals, and Noah Massiah sank 10 points and grabbed 14 rebounds for the Guy Yearwood Ballers. Eli Harris had 17 points, 16 rebounds, seven steals, and six blocks for the MDBA's second team.

However, the Guy Yearwood Ballers lost 32-43 against the Mahijah Davis Basketball Academy Shooters. Yohan Nicholas converted 14 points and snatched six rebounds, and Ethan Davis and Joshua Joseph each had eight points for the MDBA Shooters.

Ezekiel Burkett scored seven points, and Elliot Samuel Jr. also had seven points, six rebounds, and five steals for the Guy Yearwood Ballers.

The Mahijah Davis Basketball Academy's second team was also easily beaten by the MDBA's Shooters on the opening day.

The Mahijah Davis Basketball Academy Shooters prevailed 46-15 against their colleagues. Yohan Nicholas shot a game-high 20 points, Joshua Joseph sank 12 points, and Ethan Davis scored 10 points for the MDBA's Shooters.

Elliot Samuel Jr. converted nine points, and Jhaquany Cornelius scored six points for the Mahijah Davis Basketball Academy's second team.

cont'd from pg 22

The Turks and Caicos Islands blanked the British Virgin Islands 4-0 in their second match, and St. Lucia romped to a 4-0 victory against St. Maarten in second-round matches on Saturday.

Dominica defeated the British Virgin Islands 3-0 in the other opening round Tier II, Group B match at the Hasely Crawford Stadium.

French Guiana defeated Curacao 3-1

in their opening match in Tier I Group B at the Ato Boldon Stadium on Saturday.

Puerto Rico delivered a dominant performance in their Tier I, Group B match, overwhelming French St. Martin 6-0 on Saturday. Jamaica prevailed 2-0 against St. Kitts and Nevis in Tier I Group A action at the Dwight Yorke Stadium.

Host Trinidad and Tobago opened their campaign in Tier I Group A with a 3-1 victory against Aruba.

Sports

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TRUSTED NEWS AND RESPECTED VIEWS

South Africa win Test series against Windies

GUYANA (Reuters) - Keshav Maharaj took three wickets to lead South Africa to a 40-run win over the West Indies on the third day of the second Test at Providence in Guyana on Saturday and became his country's most successful spin bowler.

South Africa completed victory inside three days after bowling the West Indies out for 222 in their second innings, having set them a target of 263 runs to win the match.

The rain-affected first game in Trinidad was drawn but the second Test victory means South Africa have won 10 successive series against the West Indies.

Maharaj, named man of the series, finished with three for 37, going past Hugh Tayfield's tally of 170 Test wickets to set a new standard for South African spin bowling.

Fast bowler Kagiso Rababa, who also took three wickets, has now captured 299 Test victims.

It was a close call for the touring side in a low scoring match as the Win-



The South Africa team pose with the winners' trophy after beating the West Indies to win the two-match series on the third day of the second and final Test at the National Stadium in Providence, Guyana, on Saturday, August 17, 2024. (Getty Images)

dies fell agonisingly short.

They began their chase with more than two days to play but lost opener Mikyle Louis cheaply for four as he nicked a catch to Wiaan Mulder at slip off Rabada.

Captain Kraigg Brathwaite was the next man out but not before adding 42 runs with Keacy Carty for the second wicket.

When the experienced Jason Holder fell without scoring to leave the West

Indies reeling on 104 for six, it looked an uphill task for the home team.

Wicketkeeper/batsman Joshua da Silva and Gudakesh Motie, however, shared the best Windies partnership of the series, adding 77 runs to reduce the target to 82, before Motie was lbw to Maharaj for a test-best 45.

Maharaj trapped Da Silva lbw for 27 and a brilliant one-handed diving catch from skipper Temba Bavuma sent back Shamar

Joseph before Maharaj had Jayden Seales caught by close-in fielder David Bedingham.

South Africa had resumed in the morning on 223 for five with a 239-run lead, but the 22-year-old Seales ran through the tail to return test best figures of six for 61 as the last five wickets fell for 22 runs.

Both teams will now turn their attention on securing top honours in a three-match T20 International series.