



ANTIGUA & BARBUDA

# POINTVILLE EXPRESS

TRUSTED NEWS AND RESPECTED VIEWS

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# CONVICTED MURDERER TO SERVE 30 YEARS AT HMP

Story on Page 2



## *Welcome Home Captain Simon*

Seaview Farm resident Bernel Simon was in command of the Boeing 737 Max Aircraft that arrived at V.C. Bird International Airport from New York's JFK International Airport yesterday. It was Bernel Simon's inaugural flight as captain of the American Airlines service. He was met on arrival by his parents, tourism officials and other well wishers, all celebrating his promotion. Photo Credit: Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Live

# Local News



## Hefty sentence imposed on convicted murderer Tedson Knowles

Tedson Knowles, who murdered his girlfriend Carrisa Chandler four years ago, was sentenced to 30 years in prison by the High Court of Justice yesterday.

The sentence was imposed by Justice Ann Marie Smith, who in her judgment, ruled that Knowles' case will be eligible for review in 20 years.

30-year-old Carrisa Chandler of New Winthropes was pronounced dead by a medical doctor at the then Mount St. John's Medical Centre, shortly after she was shot by Tedson Knowles of the same address around

4am on Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2019, following a domestic dispute.

Knowles, who was 44-years-old at the time was subsequently arrested and charged with the murder of Carrisa Chandler who was an employee of State Insurance Company Limited.

A jury convicted him of the crime on 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2024.

During the trial, prosecutors relied heavily on the findings of Pathologist Dr. Petra Nanton, who told the court that Chandler's wounds revealed she was shot at close range.

*cont'd on pg 4*



Tedson Knowles, left, and Carrisa Chandler (deceased).

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## Foreign Affairs Minister to CARICOM Heads: Embrace LIAT 2020

CARICOM leaders have been told that LIAT 2020 is taking to the skies with a commitment to serving the OECS sub-region and beyond.

The assurance was given by Minister of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Barbuda Affairs, E.P. Chet Greene, at the 47<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community.

On their agenda item of Regional Air Transportation, Minister Greene proudly informed the meeting that the delegations of Antigua and Barbuda; Dominica; and Saint Kitts and Nevis were transported to Grenada via a LIAT 2020 chartered flight,

showcasing a return to the skies for the renowned and trusted Caribbean airline [LIAT] and its mantra of regional integration.

He used the opportunity to encourage fellow CARICOM member states to not only embrace LIAT 2020, but to engage with the airline officials who were present in Grenada and seize the opportunities available.

The Foreign Minister stated that the return of the beloved regional airline would greatly assist in the improvement of regional transportation, connectivity and trade, while providing greater options in travel routes. Minister Greene further assured



the meeting that LIAT 2020 would be offering superior services that would bring immense pride to the Caribbean people.

“Members of my delegation, Dominica and Saint

Kitts and Nevis can all attest to the quality of the service experience onboard the new and improved LIAT 2020,” the foreign minister expressed to CARICOM leaders at their conference.

## ABMBA donates to hurricane relief efforts

The Antigua Barbuda Montserrat Bankers Association has contributed EC\$20,000 to be evenly distributed between Grenada and St Vincent and the Grenadines to procure aid for their impacted dependencies, following the passage of Hurricane Beryl in July.

The destruction caused has left some citizens in dire need of basic

supplies.

“This cash donation from the ABMBA will contribute significantly to providing aid to the citizens of the affected islands. It is our social responsibility to come to the assistance of our neighbours in the OECS when in need, and we are proud that we were able to answer the call.” Re-marked Ladesa James Williams, Pres-

ident of ABMBA.

A brief handing over ceremony was held at the headquarters of the National Office of Disaster Services (NODS) and attended by representatives from member banks of the Antigua Barbuda Montserrat Bankers Association and personnel within in the Ministry of Social Transformation and NODS.

*cont'd from pg 2*

One wound was located on the upper right side of Chandler’s chest and an exit wound was discovered on her right upper back. The pathologist also told the court that Chandler suffered tremendous blood loss.

Knowles’ attorney, Wendel Alexander, during the trial, tried to dispute the findings of the pathologist. He attempted to suggest that the wounds sustained by the deceased woman could have been as a result of other situations. However, he was unsuccessful in his efforts.

The prosecution relied on testimony from neighbours who resided in the apartment complex with the couple.

They told the court they heard the couple arguing, which escalated further and crashing sounds began emanating from the room. There was a lull and then it resumed. Shortly after, what appeared to be a gunshot rang out and Carrisa Chandler later cried out for help.

She was rushed to hospital, but efforts to save her life were futile.



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## Curtains fall on Druesday with final event

The late Soca Artiste Ricardo Drue’s signature carnival event ‘Druesday’ was held for the final time on Tuesday evening at Carnival City.

A fireworks display, along with the performance of ‘Last One Standing’, which clinched the 2023 Road March Title in a three-way tie capped off an emotional evening of reflection and celebration for the life of the Antiguan and Barbudan soca artiste, who was a force to be reckoned with and who found joy in representing his homeland throughout the region and internationally.

Ricardo Drue was pronounced dead at Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre on Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2023, after he was discovered unresponsive, his death sending shockwaves throughout the country and further afield.

He would have celebrated his 39<sup>th</sup> birthday yesterday.

Among those remembering him



was his mother, Nicola Barriteau, who made an emotional post via her Facebook page, Nicky MediaMe.

“Now that the dust has settled, once again it is just you and me, like it was thirty-nine years ago, here we are at this moment. On July 31st, 1985 it was you and me against the world, both crying...together yet alone... Kicking and crying you came, a sign of the powerful and positive impact you were about to unleash on this earth. I am happy you came into this realm. I

would do it all again, no changes.

“Today, I cry, from the depths of my soul, but Ric, guess what... the world now cries with me. This has been my toughest battle, losing you, unfortunately I am left with no choice.

“You are now in the hands of the Divine Creator and all will be well. Happy Birthday Ric, sleep well..Your Mamash!”

Also, remembering Ricardo Drue on his birthday was soca sensation, Patrice Roberts. Roberts and Drue share a daughter and the couple was engaged to be married at the time of his passing.

“Happy heavenly Birthday, Ricardo. It hasn’t gotten any easier without you. Smiling is my way of trying to move forward, but the pain is still there. I find some comfort in the memories we shared and the love that remains. You are forever in my heart. With love!”

## We're Hiring

Antigua Cruise Port (ACP), managed by Global Ports Holding (Antigua) Limited, a branch of Global Ports Holding Plc (GPH), plays a crucial role in the cruise industry. GPH is acclaimed as the world’s largest independent cruise port operator, with a portfolio of 32 cruise ports across 19 countries. We are currently seeking skilled professionals to join our dynamic team at ACP. Available positions include **Marketing and Communications Manager**, **Accounts Officer**, and **Port Security Manager**.

These key roles are vital for boosting the port’s visibility and reputation, ensuring financial precision, and maintaining efficient operations. As a team member, you will contribute to our thriving cruise port operations, collaborating with industry leaders to provide outstanding customer experiences and drive strategic initiatives. If you are eager to make a significant impact and advance your career in an exciting environment, we invite you to apply and become part of our success story.

process improvements to enhance the efficiency and accuracy of the accounts payables function.

- Inventory Management: Oversee and manage inventory records, ensuring accuracy and consistency in stock levels. Coordinate with relevant departments to monitor inventory usage and maintain adequate stock levels.

### Port Security Manager

**Key Responsibilities**

- Team Management:** Lead and manage a team of security officers and oversee contracted security firms, ensuring adherence to standards and optimizing security operations.
- Stakeholder Relations:** Collaborate with internal departments, cruise lines, agents, and local authorities to develop effective security strategies and maintain strong relationships.
- Security Policy Development:** Create and enforce security policies and procedures, translating organizational strategy into actionable security goals.
- Security Coordination:** Monitor security systems, conduct regular inspections, and integrate security protocols across departments.
- PFSO Duties:** Conduct comprehensive security

surveys, develop and implement the port facility security plan, ensure adequate training, and coordinate with ship security officers.

**Minimum Requirements**

- Bachelor’s degree in security management, law enforcement, or a closely related field.
- Minimum of Ten years of experience in law enforcement, security services in maritime security, or regulatory compliance, or an equivalent combination of experience and training.

**Other Key Requirements**

- In-depth knowledge of security principles, practices, and local security policies and regulations.
- Strong ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
- Excellent Customer Service skills

payables or a similar financial role.

- Proficiency in accounting software and Microsoft Office Suite, particularly Excel.

**Other Key Requirements**

- Strong attention to detail and accuracy.
- Excellent organizational and time management skills.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- Strong communication skills and a proactive approach to problem-solving.

### Accounts Officer

**Key Responsibilities**

- Accounts Payables Management:** Oversee and manage the accounts payables process, including the verification, processing, and reconciliation of invoices and payments.
- Vendor Relations:** Build and maintain positive relationships with vendors and suppliers, addressing any payment-related inquiries and resolving discrepancies.

Financial Record Keeping: Maintain accurate records of all transactions, ensuring compliance with company policies and accounting standards.

- Reconciliation: Perform regular reconciliations of accounts payable ledgers, ensuring accuracy and resolving any discrepancies in a timely manner.
- Reporting: reports on accounts payables and other financial matters as required by the Financial Controller.
- Process Improvement: Identify and implement

### Marketing & Communications Manager

**Key Responsibilities**

- Media Relations:** Cultivate and maintain relationships with media outlets, develop press releases, and manage media inquiries.
- Social & Digital Media:** Implement social media strategies, create engaging content, maintain a content calendar, and manage online reputation.
- CSR Initiatives:** Develop and promote CSR programs supporting local communities and sustainability.
- Brand Management:** Ensure consistency of the GPH and ACP brand identity, and develop brand-building strategies.

Interested candidates are invited to apply by submitting their resume and cover letter addressed to:

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**Antigua Cruise Port**  
**Heritage Quay**  
**High St, St John’s, Antigua**  
**info@antiguacruiseport.com**

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## 2024 PANORAMA COMPETITION ORDER OF APPEARANCE

BAND	ORDER OF APPEARANCE	SONG OF CHOICE	ARRANGER	TUNER/BUILDER	CAPTAIN
West Side Symphony Steel Orchestra	1st	"Superman" by Ricardo Drue	Aijal Jarvis	Veron Henry	Eugene Davis
West Indies Oil Gemonites Steel Orchestra	2nd	"Let Loose" by Tian Winter	Patrick Stone Johnson	Veron Henry	Joseph Henry
Harmonites International Steel Orchestra	3rd	"Socaholic" by Ricardo Drue	Aubrey "Lacu" Samuel	Eustace Harris	Alston Davis
Crab Hole Liquors Panache Steel Orchestra	4th	"Ah Love It Here" by Ricardo Drue	Malik Smith	Veron Henry	Maurisha Potter
Original Steel Orchestra	5th	"Happy Music" by Ricardo Drue	Derel Jarvis	Veron Henry	Elvis Wetherill
Halycon Steel Orchestra	6th	"Let's Do It" by Ricardo Drue	Deiondre Teague	Dudley Dickson	Dwayne Mussington
Caribbean Union Bank Hells Gate Steel Orchestra	7th	"Ah Love It Here" by Ricardo Drue	Khan Cordice	Veron Henry	Keith Athill



Joanna Li



## Chinese and Kung Fu Summer Camp 2024 kicks off

The Confucius Institute of Antigua and Barbuda (CIAB), with co-operation from the Antigua and Barbuda China Friendship Association, is thrilled to announce the launch of the Chinese and Kung Fu Free Summer Camp for 2024.

This unique camp offers an enriching blend of physical activity and cultural edu-

cation, designed for youngsters aged five to eighteen years.

Operating from Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 12 noon from August 13th to 20th at the Sir Novelle Richards Academy, the camp promises an engaging and dynamic experience.

Participants will immerse themselves in the an-

cient art of Kung Fu, with sessions tailored to accommodate all skill levels.

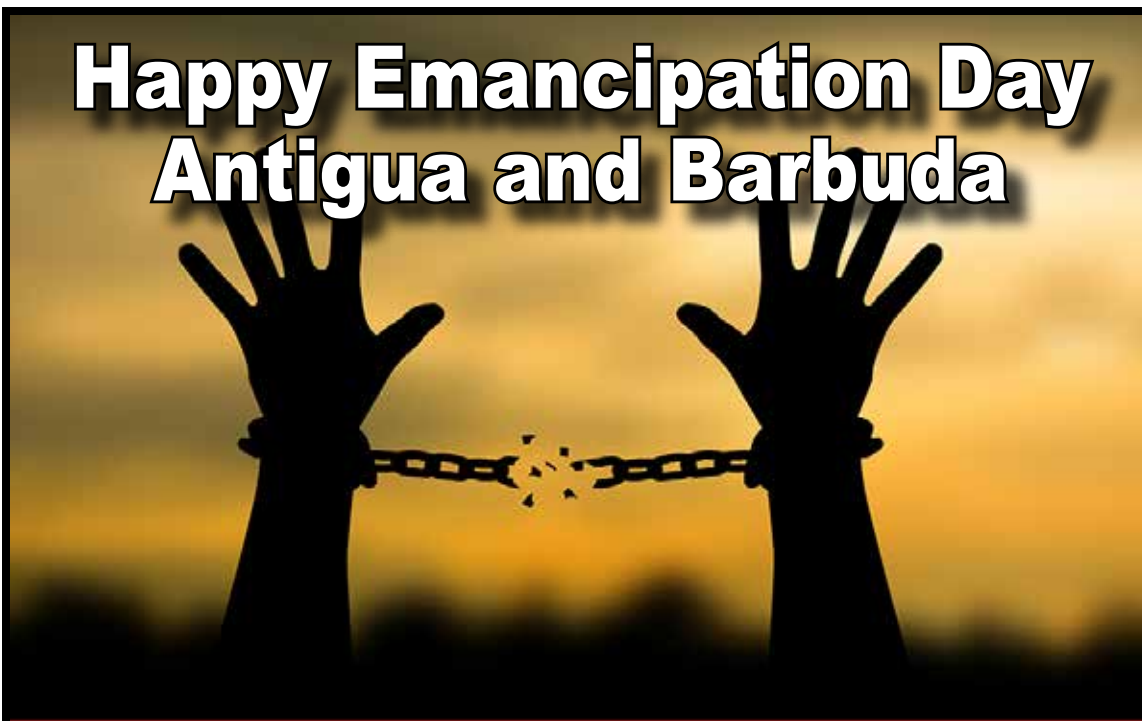
Learning Kung Fu instils discipline, enhances focus, and builds confidence in young people. It is a holistic practice that promotes physical fitness, mental resilience, and emotional well-being.

Beginners will master

fundamental techniques and forms, while more advanced students will refine their skills and push their practice to new heights. The program ensures that children stay active, engaged, and entertained through a balanced mix of rigorous training and enjoyable activities.

Additionally, the camp provides a unique opportunity to delve into Chinese culture, fostering a deeper appreciation and understanding of this rich heritage. Participants will not only learn martial arts but also gain insights into Chinese traditions, language, and values, promoting cultural exchange and mutual respect.

Spaces for this exclusive camp are limited, and early registration is highly recommended. To secure your child's spot or for more information, please contact Ms. Joanna Li at 268-784-4194.





## Troubled Boeing names new boss for 'next chapter'

By Natalie Sherman

Boeing has named an aerospace industry veteran and engineer as its new chief executive as the troubled plane-maker looks for a turnaround.

Robert K "Kelly" Ortberg, a long-time leader at aircraft electronics supplier Rockwell Collins, will start in the position next month, Boeing said.

He will replace Dave Calhoun, who announced plans to step down this spring, after the mid-air blowout of a piece of a new



plane flown by Alaska Airlines reignited criticism of Boeing's manufacturing and

safety record. The announcement came as the firm reported

deepening financial losses. Boeing board chairman *cont'd on pg 10*

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# Business



*cont'd from pg 9*

Steven Mollenkopf said Mr Ortberg had the “right skills and experience to lead Boeing in its next chapter”.

“He is an experienced leader who is deeply respected in the aerospace industry, with a well-earned reputation for building strong teams and running complex engineering and manufacturing companies,”

he wrote in a letter to Boeing staff.

Mr Ortberg, a 64-year-old Iowa native, had been seen as a “bright star” in the industry before his retirement in 2021, known for steering a key industry supplier through several mergers.

In Boeing, he is taking on a company struggling to repair its reputation, which

was badly damaged after it was implicated in fatal crashes of two of its 737 Max planes more than five years ago.

It recently pleaded guilty to a fraud charge related to those tragedies, agreeing to a criminal fine of nearly \$244m (£190m).

It continues to face other lawsuits and government probes sparked by the Alas-

ka Airlines incident, as well as mounting financial losses.

On Wednesday, Boeing said it had lost \$1.4bn between April and June, compared with a roughly \$150m loss last year.

As well as the troubles in its commercial unit, the hole reflected increased costs in the company’s defence business, which often involves fixed price contracts and has been hit by the sharp run-up in prices in recent years.

Mr Ortberg said he would put “safety and quality at the forefront” as he takes on the new role leading more than 170,000 people around the world.

“There is much work to be done, and I’m looking forward to getting started,” he said.

Mr Ortberg spent more than two decades at Rockwell Collins before being named chief executive in 2013.

The role sometimes brought him into conflict with Boeing, a client and sometimes competitor, such as when the bigger firm opposed plans to merge Rockwell Collins with United Technologies in 2018.

Among employees, Mr Ortberg, a former Boy Scout, won a reputation for being focused on the rank-and-file, at one point eliminating parking perks that had been granted to executives, according to an account in a local Iowa newspaper when he retired from

*cont'd on pg 11*

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*cont'd from pg 10*

the combined company.

On a call with analysts on Wednesday, Mr Calhoun, who was not involved in the pick, said his successor was a “seasoned operator” who was aware of the challenge ahead.

“He knows full well that we’re in recovery mode and he knows full well that we’ve got to complete the recovery mode,” he said.

Boeing, one of the world’s two major manufacturers of commercial airplanes, currently has a backlog of about 5,400 aircraft on order, it reported on Wednesday.

The troubles at the firm, which have forced it to slow production, have spilled over into the wider aerospace industry, contributing to significant delays in delivering new planes for airlines looking to expand routes and improve fuel efficiency.

Christopher Carey, portfolio manager at Carnegie Investment Council, said it would be a “wait-and-see story” as to whether the new appointment marks a turning point for the company.

“All eyes really will be on the coming quarters to see if Boeing is able - and he himself is able - to live up to that promise,” he said.

Shares rose more than 1% after the announcement, signalling optimism among investors.

Representative Rick Larsen, the senior Democrat on a key House Transportation Committee, wrote

on social media that he was “encouraged” to see the company appoint a mechanical engineer to the top role.

“I hope that means he will ensure that his top message for everyone is building the best airplane means building the safest airplane in the world,” he said.

Mr Calhoun, who will stay on as a special advisor to the board of directors un-

til March 2025, said the firm was already making progress.

He pointed to the deal announced earlier this month to acquire Spirit Aerosystems, as well the plan the company submitted to regulators related to its manufacturing process.

Boeing also said it had managed to increase production of commercial

planes over the three months to June although it still faces a cap on output that was imposed by the federal government after the Alaska Airlines incident.

“Despite a challenging quarter, we are making substantial progress strengthening our quality management system and positioning our company for the future,” Mr Calhoun said.

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# Regional News



Vybz Kartel

## Vybz Kartel, co-accused all freed by Court of Appeal

Dancehall entertainer Vybz Kartel and his three co-accused will not be re-

tried for the 2011 killing of Clive 'Lizard' Williams.

President of the Court of Appeal, Justice Marva McDonald-Bishop, in providing reasons for the decision that was handed down on Wednesday, said 12 factors were considered.

Among them were the seriousness of the offences, the strength of the prosecution's case, the availability of witnesses for a retrial, the ordeal to be faced by the men if a new trial is ordered, changes to the Jury Act, and the possibility of prejudice based on the information in the public domain regarding the first trial.

Despite explaining that the offences were very serious in nature, McDonald-Bishop said there were "powerful" factors that would work against the ordering of a retrial.

"These factors are the insufficient and inadequate account by the prosecution for the availability of its witnesses and trial exhibits," McDonald-Bishop started out.

The complex nature of the trial, which lasted for 64 days and utilised significant resources to complete,

*cont'd on pg 13*

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*cont'd from pg 12*

was another factors that the appellate court considered in Kartel and his co-accused's favour.

Kartel's health record also a factor that weighed against a new trial.

McDonald-Bishop said the acquittals have been decided on, and the accused men are free. The decision was unanimous among the three judges.

The full written judgment of the court is still subject to editing, said McDonald-Bishop, but a summary is being provided.

She said the summary was done to provide the public with the reasons for coming to the decision on the matter of a retrial.

The written judgment is to be available at a later date.

Vybz Kartel, whose real name is Adidja Palmer, along with Andre St John, Kahira Jones and Shawn 'Shawn Storm' Campbell, were charged with the murder of Williams in 2011, and convicted in 2014.

However, they had their convictions quashed by the UK Privy Council in March 2024, with the matter being sent back to the Court of Appeal in Jamaica for it to decide whether the men should be retried.

The UK Privy Council quashed their convictions, citing irregularities in the handling of a juror issue during the trial.

The Privy Council also concluded that the trial judge's decision to allow a

tainted juror to remain on the jury was "fatal" to the safety of the conviction and infringed on the men's right to a fair hearing.

At the end of hearing arguments for and against a retrial of the men, the Court of Appeal reserved judgment.

Attorneys for the men argued against a retrial in mid-June, with Vybz Kartel's lawyer, Isat Buchanan, stating that the prosecution should end its case against the entertainer and his co-accused in light of admission that the men's rights to a trial within a

reasonable time has been breached.

Acting Director of Public Prosecutions, Claudette Thompson, indicated that the crown was prepared to start the trial in the new court term beginning in September, should a retrial be ordered.

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# Regional News



## Maduro promises voting data as observers say Venezuela election 'not democratic'

Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro has insisted his party is ready to present all the vote tallies from his country's disputed election after election observers said it "could not be considered democratic".

The National Elector-

al Council (CNE) declaration that Mr Maduro won has sparked two days of protests, with the country's opposition saying voting tallies show its candidate, Edmundo González, won by a wide margin.

NGOs say there have

been at least 11 deaths in protest-related violence and that dozens more have been injured.

Speaking to journalists on Wednesday, Mr Maduro said again that his government's reason for not publishing the electoral results

was because of a "hack" on the electoral council website.

He also claimed he had "proof" that the opposition leader Maria Corina Machado was behind "violence".

He alleged that protesters were "attacking" the constitution and asked the Supreme Court to take action, which could pave the way for more mass arrests of opposition figures or protesters.

Earlier on Wednesday the US-based Carter Center - which was invited by Venezuelan officials to monitor Sunday's presidential poll - said it could not "verify or corroborate the results of the election declared by CNE".

The Carter Center also said that the CNE's failure to announce the detailed results by polling station "constitutes a serious breach of electoral principles".

It added that the CNE had "demonstrated a clear bias in favour of the incumbent [President Nicolás Maduro]" and accused the CNE of a "complete lack of transparency in announcing the results".

The opposition have said they've obtained the majority of receipts from electronic voting machines which prove they won the election with 70% of the vote.

With its statement, the Carter Center has joined a *cont'd on pg 15*

# Regional News

*cont'd from pg 14*

long list of countries and organisations pressuring the CNE to release detailed voting data at the polling station level, among them the US, Brazil and the EU.

The US state department said the international community was running out of patience waiting for Venezuelan electoral authorities to release full detailed data on their country's election.

The Carter Center statement is embarrassing for the Maduro government because its observers had been complimentary about the Venezuelan electoral system in the past.

President Maduro has often quoted a remark by the Carter Center's founder, former US President Jimmy Carter, who in 2012 said that "of the 92 elections that we've monitored, I would say the election process in Venezuela is the best in the world".

More than 1,000 people have so far been detained, according to Venezuela's attorney general, who also said that two members of the security forces had died in the protests.

Ms Machado has urged her supporters to remain peaceful even if provoked by the government and its allies.

On Tuesday, a close ally of President Maduro, National Assembly leader Jorge Rodríguez, called for the arrest of Ms Machado and Mr González, accusing them of leading a "fascist conspiracy".

The Costa Rican foreign minister later offered Ms Machado and Mr González political asylum, saying that his government "had been informed of arrest warrants" against the two.

Ms Machado thanked the Costa Rican government but said that it was her "responsibility to continue this struggle alongside the people".



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## Iran vows revenge after Hamas leader assassinated in Tehran

Iran has threatened “harsh punishment” for Israel, which it says was responsible for assassinating Hamas’s leader on Wednesday.

Israel has not commented directly on the strike which killed Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran early on Wednesday.

However, Israel’s Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said his country had delivered “crushing blows” to its enemies in recent days, including the killing of a senior Hezbollah commander in Lebanon hours before the Tehran strike.

He warned Israelis that “challenging days lie ahead”, as fears of a wider conflict in the Middle East grow.

“Since the strike in Beirut there are threats surrounding from all directions,” he told a televised address.

“We are prepared for any scenario and we will stand united and determined against any threat.”

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres warned against a “dangerous escalation” of hostilities in the region. The UN Security Council was due to meet on Wednesday evening to discuss the situation.

Hamas’s armed wing said the death of Haniyeh, who was widely viewed as the group’s overall leader,



would “take the battle to new dimensions” and have major repercussions.

The group attacked Israel on 7 October, killing around 1,200 people. Since the attack, Israel has vowed to destroy Hamas.

Haniyeh, who played an important role in negotiations over a ceasefire in Gaza, was killed hours after attending the inauguration of Iran’s new president, Masoud Pezeshkian, in Tehran.

A senior Hamas official told the BBC the killing took place in the same building where Haniyeh had stayed during previous visits to Iran.

Three Hamas leaders and a number of guards were with him in the same

building, they said.

Khalil Al-Hayya, a senior Hamas official, told a news conference that a missile hit Haniyeh “directly”, citing witnesses who were with him.

The group’s leadership has been left in “a state of shock”, top Hamas officials have told the BBC.

Hours before Haniyeh was targeted, Israel said it had killed senior Hezbollah Fuad Shukur in Beirut.

Israel believes he was responsible for a rocket attack that killed 12 people in the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights on Saturday. Hezbollah has denied any involvement.

The Iran-backed group confirmed Shukur’s body was found among the

rubble of the residential building which was struck. Four other people, including two children, were killed.

A response from Hezbollah is almost certain. In the past, the heavily-armed, Iranian-supported group has responded to the killings of senior members by firing barrages of rockets into Israel.

The US has updated its travel guidance for citizens, advising them not to travel to Lebanon due to “rising tensions”, and the UK foreign secretary has urged nationals to leave the country.

Several airlines have cancelled flights to Beirut, while United, Delta and British Airways are expected to announce they are suspending flights to Tel Aviv.



## ‘Is she black or Indian?’: Trump attacks Harris’ racial identity

By Rachel Looker

Donald Trump has questioned Kamala Harris’ racial identity during a heated exchange at a convention for black journalists.

Trump falsely claimed the vice-president and presumptive Democratic nominee had only emphasised her Asian-American heritage until recently when, he claimed, “she became a black person”.

“I didn’t know she was black until a number of years ago when she happened to turn black and now she wants to be known as black,” he said at the National Association of Black Journalists convention in Chicago on Wednesday.

“So I don’t know - Is she Indian? Or is she black?”

Ms Harris’ campaign said Trump’s “tirade... was simply a taste of the chaos



and division” that has characterised his campaign, while the White House called the comments “repulsive”.

Ms Harris is the first black and Asian-American vice-president, with Indian and Jamaican-born parents. She

attended Howard University, a historically black university, and joined the predominantly black Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority.

She became a member of Congressional Black Caucus after entering the Senate in 2017.

Trump’s claims prompted a heated exchange with ABC News’ correspondent Rachel Scott, one of the moderators of Wednesday’s event.

“I respect either one,” the Republican said in reference to Harris’ racial identity. “But she obviously doesn’t because she was Indian all the way and then all of a sudden she made a turn and she became a black person.”

White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said no one “has any right to tell someone who they are, how they identify. That is no one’s right.”

“Who appointed Donald Trump the arbiter of Blackness?” asked Representative Ritchie Torres of New York. He described Trump as a “relic of a racist past”.

The Republican nominee and former president has a history of attacking his opponents on the basis of race.

He falsely accused Barack Obama, *cont’d on pg 18*

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# International

AROUND THE WORLD



*cont'd from pg 17*  
the country's first black president, of not being born in the US. Trump attacked former UN ambassador and his Republican primary opponent Nikki Haley by falsely claiming she could not be president because her parents were not US citizens when she was born.

Ms Harris has faced a series of attacks since becoming

the presumptive Democratic nominee. Many criticized the decision, saying she was chosen only because of her race.

Tim Burchett, a Republican congressman from Tennessee, called her a "DEI vice-president" - a reference to diversity, equity and inclusion programmes.

On Wednesday, Scott pushed Trump to clarify whether he believed Ms Har-

ris was a "DEI hire". He replied: "I really don't know, could be."

Ms Harris has described growing up engaged with her Indian heritage and often visited the country. Her mother also immersed her two daughters in the black culture of Oakland, California - where she was raised, she said.

Trump also attacked Ms

Harris' credentials during the discussion, saying she had failed her bar exam early in her legal career. His comments were met with murmurs from the crowd.

"I'm just giving you the facts. She didn't pass her bar exam and she didn't think she would pass it and she didn't think she was going to ever pass it and I don't know what happened. Maybe she passed it," he said.

Ms Harris graduated from the University of California Hastings College of Law in 1989. The New York Times reported that she failed her first attempt and passed at the second. The state bar of California says less than half of first-time test takers pass the exam.

The Chicago discussion began with a contentious back and forth between Scott and the former president. Trump accused the journalist of giving a "very rude introduction" when she began the conversation asking about his past criticism of black people.

She cited Trump calling black journalists' questions "stupid and racist" and that he had "dinner with a white supremacist at your Mar a Lago resort".

"I love the black population of this country, I've done so much for the black population of this country," he responded.

The former president criticised the conversation hours later on his social media platform. "The questions were rude and nasty, often in the form of a statement, but we CRUSHED IT!" he said.

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## A record night of the greats in the Paris pool

PARIS (Reuters) - French poster boy Leon Marchand and U.S. distance dynamo Katie Ledecky made history while the Paris pool saw its first world record on one of the great nights of Olympic swimming on Wednesday.

China's Pan Zhanle ended the programme with another firecracker, the teenager obliterating his own 100 metres freestyle world record to take his country's first swimming gold of the meet.

Before that, Marchand sent sound levels off the scale at the La Defense Arena as he pulled off an unprecedented 200 metres butterfly and breaststroke double -- with a medal ceremony in between.

Both swims were completed in Olympic record time, a remarkable feat in two of the most tiring and demanding disciplines. Until Wednesday, no swimmer had managed to medal in both.

With passion, patriotic pride and raw emotion bursting out on all sides, Marchand soaked up the pressure and delivered what even the hype had suggested might be too much.

The winner of Sunday's Individual Medley started with an incredible comeback in the butterfly after Hungarian world record holder and reigning champion Kristof Milak led the



Leon Marchand, of France, celebrates after winning the men's 200-meter breaststroke final at the 2024 Summer Olympics in Nanterre, France, Wednesday, July 31, 2024. (AP)

first three lengths.

Milak had to settle for silver, with Canada's Ilya Kharun taking bronze.

With the crowd chanting his name at every stroke -- "Leon, Leon" echoing around the arena -- Marchand returned to lead every metre of the breaststroke before touching out in two minutes 05.85 seconds.

Australia's Zac Stubblety-Cook, the 2021 champion in Tokyo, had to settle for silver while Caspar Corbeau of the Netherlands took the bronze.

Australia's Kyle Chalmers was a silver medalist in the men's 100 free behind Pan, with Romania's David Popovici third.

Ledecky also seized her chance to shine, although the win was never really

in doubt, as she defended her 1,500 freestyle title for a record-equalling eighth gold.

The American now shares the record for most Olympic golds in women's swimming with compatriot Jenny Thompson, who won eight relay titles over three Olympics from 1992-2000.

Her 12th medal matched the all-time record shared by Thompson, Americans Dara Torres and Natalie Coughlin, and Australian Emma McKeon.

She also became the first female swimmer to stand at the top of the podium at four Olympics, something only male compatriots Michael Phelps and Ryan Lochte have managed.

Another familiar name

also returned to the top when evergreen Swede Sarah Sjöström won the women's blue riband 100 freestyle -- a race the sprint queen only decided to enter late in the day.

Canada's Summer McIntosh led the women's 200 butterfly semi-finals, ahead of Regan Smith of the United States and China's Olympic record holder Zhang Yufei.

American Kate Douglass was fastest in the women's 200 breaststroke semis, ahead of South Africa's 100 champion Tatjana Smith.

American Ryan Murphy, the 2016 Olympic champion, failed to qualify for the men's 200 backstroke final after winning the 100 bronze on Monday.

## Djokovic reaches quarter-finals in ominous fashion

PARIS (Reuters) - Serbia's Novak Djokovic and Spain's Carlos Alcaraz stayed on collision course for a golden showdown at the Paris Olympics as they surged through to the quarter-finals on Wednesday.

But Rafa Nadal's hopes of writing one last golden chapter in his Roland Garros love story ended in disappointment as he and Alcaraz lost in the quarter-finals of the doubles.

"I don't know what's going to happen in the future, but if that's the last time I enjoyed it," the 38-year-old said after a 6-2, 6-4 loss to Americans Rajeev Ram and Austin Krajicek on the court where the king of clay won 14 French Open titles.

Djokovic, also in the last-chance saloon as far as his Olympic title hopes go, beat Germany's Dominic Koepfer 7-5, 6-3 to reach the last eight at the Games for a record fourth time where he meets Greek Stefanos Tsitsipas.

The 21-year-old Alcaraz, seeded second, followed suit with a 6-4, 6-2 victory over Russian Roman Safiullin to line up a quarter-final with American Tommy Paul.

Tokyo Olympics singles champion Alexander Zverev stayed on course for a repeat as the third seed beat Australia's Alexei Popyrin 7-5, 6-3 to set up a quarter-final with Lo-



Serbia's Novak Djokovic celebrates his victory over Germany's Dominik Koepfer during the men's single tennis competition at the Roland Garros stadium, at the 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris, France, Wednesday, July 31, 2024. (AP)

renzo Musetti.

Women's singles top seed Iga Swiatek became the first player from Poland to reach an Olympic semi-final as Danielle Collins retired trailing 4-1 in the third set of their scrap.

Anna Karolina Schmiedlova stunned Wimbledon champion Barbora Krejckova of the Czech Republic 6-4, 6-2 to become the first Slovak since Miloslav Mecir in 1988 to reach the Olympic singles semi-finals, and China's Zheng Qinwen ended the stellar career of Germany's Angelique Kerber to emulate Li Na, who reached the semi-finals of singles at the Beijing

Games in 2008.

Kerber, who will retire after the Games, clung on grimly in stifling heat but Zheng eventually won 6-7(4), 6-4, 7-6(6) to set up a semi-final with Swiatek.

Swiatek trounced Collins 6-1 in the first set, lost the second 6-2 and was hit painfully by a Collins shot in the decider before moving 4-1 ahead, at which point Collins pulled out.

Unseeded Croatian Donna Vekic concluded a marathon day as she served an ace on her fifth match point, having also saved one, to beat Ukraine's Marta Kostyuk after midnight.

Vekic, who lost the longest ever Wimbledon women's semi-final to Jasmine Paolini this month, needed two hours 59 minutes to win 6-4, 2-6, 7-6(8) and will play Schmiedlova -- meaning at least one unseeded player will win a women's singles medal.

For all his 24 Grand Slam titles and countless accolades, the Olympics has never been especially kind to the 37-year-old Djokovic and a bronze medal remains his only souvenir.

But he looks in the mood to fill the only unoccupied space in his bulging trophy cabinet and is yet to

*cont'd on pg 21*

## Leewards lose to champions Barbados in final regional Under-19 one-day match

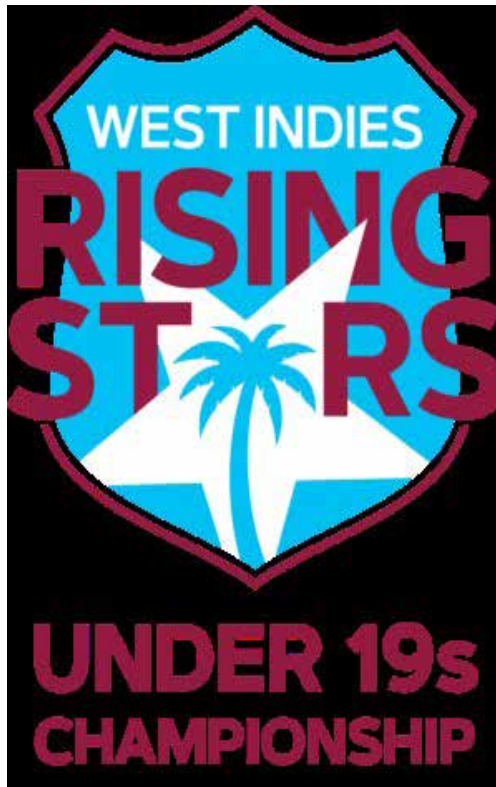
The Leeward Islands ended a disappointing campaign with a six-wicket loss against new champions Barbados in the Cricket West Indies (CWI) Rising Stars Men's Under-19 50-over Championship in St. Vincent and the Grenadines on Tuesday.

Barbados won the encounter at the Cumberland playing field in the fifth and final round of the championship to capture the title and complete the double after securing the crown in the two-day competition earlier in July.

The Leeward Islands were dismissed for 105 in 39.4 overs. Isra-el Morton hit 20 not out, Devanand Singh made 19, captain Jewel Andrew got 17, Carlton Pluck scored 12, and Michael Palmer chipped in with 11.

Saurav Worrell grabbed four for 28, and Zishan Motara claimed two for 17.

Barbados romped to victory at 110 for four in 25.1 overs. Joshua Dorne slammed 40, and Joshua Morris struck 30. Michael Palmer cap-



tured two for 31.

The 2023 regional Under-19 double champions Jamaica trounced Trinidad and Tobago by 65 runs at the Arnos Vale Playing Field in Kingstown.

Jamaica made 181 for nine off their 50 overs. Odel Samuels hit

an unbeaten 36, Kev'Aundre Virgo made 26, and Jordan Johnson scored 25. Andrew Rambaran claimed three for 22, and Aneal Rooplal took two for 39.

In reply, Trinidad and Tobago were dismissed for 116 in 39.3 overs. Opener Justin Jagessar scored 34. Matthew Morgan snapped up three wickets for three runs, and Odel Samuels claimed three for 29.

In the other encounter, Guyana defeated the Windward Islands by five wickets at the Park Hill Playing Field in Colonarie.

The Windward Islands were dismissed for 148 in 40.2 overs. Captain Stephan Pascal slammed 58, and Kirsten Murray struck 21. Captain Mavendra Dindyal bagged three for 15, Riyad Latiff claimed two for 17, and Thaddeus Lovell picked up two for 24.

Guyana achieved victory by scoring 152 for five in 38.5 overs. Jonathan van Lange hit an unbeaten 50, Romeo Deonarine scored 23, Mavendra Dindyal made 22, and Rampertab Ramnauth got 21.

*cont'd from pg 20*  
drop a set.

After the emotions and hyperbole of Djokovic's clash with Nadal on Monday, the atmosphere on a muggy centre court was more sedate as he comfortably dispatched 30-year-old Koepfer.

Standing in the way of Djokovic and a fourth Olympic singles semi-fi-

nal is eighth seed Tsitsipas who beat Argentina's Sebastian Baez.

The last time they met at Roland Garros was in the French Open final in 2021 when Tsitsipas was two sets ahead before succumbing in five.

Games debutant Alcaraz, aiming to add the Olympic title to his French Open and Wimbledon

crowns, was too good for Safiullin but his day ended in disappointment as he failed to spark alongside his idol Nadal.

Norway's Casper Ruud will be eyeing a medal as the sixth seed beat Francisco Cerundolo of Argentina to set up a quarter-final with Canada's Felix Auger-Aliassime, who finally broke his los-

ing run against Russia's Daniil Medvedev, beating the fourth seed 6-3, 7-6(5) having lost their first seven meetings.

American Paul ended French hopes of a medal by beating Corentin Moutet 7-6 (5), 6-3 but doubles partner Taylor Fritz could not join him in the last eight, going down 6-4, 7-5 to Musetti.

## Seales, Hodge achieve career-best positions on latest ICC Men's Test rankings

West Indies seamer Jayden Seales and batsman Kavem Hodge have been rewarded for their standout performances in the recently-concluded Test series against England, as both achieved career-best moves up the latest ICC Men's Test bowling and batting rankings on Wednesday.

Though West Indies suffered a 3-0 whitewash in that ICC World Test Championship series, Seales emerged as a standout performer, as he earned the player of the series award for his 13 wickets snared across all three games.

That performance saw the 22-year-old Trinidadian move seven places up to a career-best 26th position, joining teammate Jason Holder, who held firm in that position.

Veteran seamer Kemar Roach remains the top-ranked West Indies bowler at 17th, with Alzarri Joseph following Seales and Holder as the next best-ranked player at 31st.

Kyle Mayers (37th), Shannon Gabriel (43rd), Gudakesh Motie (52nd), Roston Chase (59th), Shamar Joseph (64th), Jomel Warrican (66th), and Rahkeem Cornwall (82nd) are the other Caribbean bowlers in the top 100.

On the batting chart, Hodge inched up three places to 72nd, following a credible display in the three-match series. The 31-year-old Dominican tallied 216 runs, including a maiden Test century.

Captain Kraigg Brathwaite remains the highest-ranked West Indies batsman at 41st, with out-of-favour Jermaine Blackwood slipping to 52nd. Wicketkeeper/batsman Joshua da Silva (62nd), Holder (70th), Kyle Mayer (76th), Tagenarine Chanderpaul (86th), and Roston Chase (92nd) are also in the top 100.

Meanwhile, England batter Joe



West Indies Kavem Hodge walks off after being dismissed by England's Chris Woakes during day two of the second Test between England and West Indies at Trent Bridge cricket ground, Nottingham, England, Friday, July 19, 2024. (AP)

Root reclaimed the number one Test batting position after scoring 87 in the first innings of the third and final match against West Indies in Birmingham, which his side won by 10 wickets.

This is Root's ninth stint as number one. His first tenure at the top of the rankings commenced in August 2015, and he was last at the top in June last year after a fine performance in the opening match of the Ashes series, also in Birmingham.

While Root overtook Kane Williamson to take the top spot, Babar Azam, Daryl Mitchell, Steve Smith, and Rohit Sharma have all gained a spot each as Harry Brook slipped to seventh position after attaining a career-best third position last week.

In the weekly update to the rankings that also takes into consideration performances in the Ireland versus Zimbabwe Test in Belfast, England

captain Ben Stokes, who struck 54 in the first innings in Birmingham and a quickfire 57 not out off 28 balls in the second, has moved up four positions to 30th in the batting rankings.

Zimbabwe's Sean Williams has re-entered the rankings in 33rd position after scores of 35 and 40, while England wicketkeeper Jamie Smith's knock of 95 has lifted him 31 places to 64th position.

England fast bowler Mark Wood's Player of the Match performance of two for 52 and five for 40 has lifted him into the top 20 of the bowling rankings for the first time in his career.

Gus Atkinson of England (up four places to 46th), Blessing Muzarabani of Zimbabwe (re-entered in 50th position), and Mark Adair of Ireland (up three places to 63rd) are other notable gainers in the bowling rankings.

**cont'd from pg 24**

Don Turr capitalized on a major defensive error by Grenades' goalkeeper Zaheim Scott to put Robinhood ahead with a 31st-minute conversion.

Lone forward player Malcolm Stewart responded for the Grenades three minutes later by scoring an equalizer in the 34th minute, and both teams reached halftime deadlocked at 1-1.

As the second half commenced, Robinhood remained steadfast in pressuring the Grenades defense in their quest to take the lead.

However, right-back Jordan Britto snatched the winner for the Grenades with a conversion in the 58th minute.

Britto capitalized on a corner kick, catching Robinhood's goalkeeper Jonathan Fonkel off-guard with a header that flew into the back of the net.

Luis Labrada squandered a goal-scoring opportunity to extend Grenades' lead in the 71st minute when his effort went sailing over the crossbar.

Grenades, after 74 minutes of play and a goal ahead, changed their game plan to full defensive mode as they attempted to deny Robinhood goal-scoring opportunities.

Ravello Zijler made several attacking attempts to equalize but was thwarted by the great defending tactics of the Grenades.

With five minutes of added time, Grenades sat

deep in Robinhood's defense, which paid off significantly in their favour.

At the end of relegation time, it was the Grenades who were victorious, securing their spot in the semi-finals, where they will play CCCUL Dublanc of Dominica on Friday.

Dublanc FC book their semifinal berth by defeating RAMS Village Super-

stars FC of St. Kitts 5-3 in penalty kicks after both teams were deadlocked 2-2 at the end of regulation at Stadion Ergilio Hato.

Jamaica's Premier League winners, Arnett Gardens FC, and Club Atlético Pantoja from the Dominican Republic will meet in the other semi-final on Friday.

Arnett Gardens FC

scored a convincing 7-1 win over home team CRKSV Jong Holland in their quarter-final at the Ergilio Hato Stadium on Tuesday.

Club Atlético Pantoja secured their spot in the semi-finals with a 1-0 victory over Metropolitan FC of Puerto Rico in their quarter-final at Stadion Rignaal Jean Francisca on Tuesday.

# Sports

THURSDAY 1ST AUGUST 2024



## Grenades reach CFU Club Shield semis

The Sandals and Inet Jennings Grenades FC of Antigua and Barbuda are through to the semi-finals of the Caribbean Football Union (CFU) Club Shield Championship in Willemstad, Curacao.

The Grenades booked their spot in the semi-finals after creating a huge upset by snatching a 2-1 victory against defending champions SV Robinhood of Suriname in their quarterfinal match at the Stadion Rignaal Francisca on Tuesday night.

Robinhood wasted little time pressing on offense toward the Grenades' back line with several combi-



Players of the Jennings Grenades celebrates after scoring against SV Robinhood of Suriname in the quarter-finals of the 2024 Caribbean Football Union Club Shield Championship at the Stadion Rignaal Jean Francisca in Willemstad, Curaçao, on Tuesday, July 30.

nation plays and exerting extreme pressure on goal-

keeper Zaheim Scott. The Grenades kept their

composure in defense to deny Robinhood several goal-scoring opportunities. A slight defensive error from Grenades almost forced them to trail in the 28th minute; however, a missed shot at an empty goal by Shaquille Cairo kept the team from Antigua in the clear.

Forward Malcolm Stewart soon began pressing the Surinamese back line, leaving them scrambled while trying to remain composed.

*cont'd on pg 23*



The Sandals and Inet Jennings Grenades FC starting XI against SV Robinhood of Suriname in the quarter-finals of the 2024 Caribbean Football Union Club Shield Championship at the Stadion Rignaal Jean Francisca in Willemstad, Curaçao, on Tuesday, July 30. (CFU Media)