

# UWI FIC Principal wants The UWI to lead the way towards digital liberation

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The Principal of the University of the West Indies Five Islands Campus, Prof. C Justin Robinson, wants The UWI to ‘become the vanguards of the region’s digital transformation.

Prof. Robinson was speaking Monday at the opening session of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Artificial Intelligence Research Conference being held at the UWI FIC.

Before an audience numbering in the hundreds, he noted that against the backdrop of past colonisation for Caribbean people, the region today stands at the threshold of another colonisation, digital colonisation.

“Universities have always been more than institutions of learning – they are engines of societal trans-

formation and, when history demands it, centers of resistance. Here in the Caribbean, The University of the West Indies has served for over seven decades as the intellectual heart of our region, nurturing minds that have shaped nations, economies, and liberation movements from Barbados to Belize, from Jamaica to Guyana.

“Today, our universities must become the vanguards of digital liberation. Just as UWI played a crucial role in the intellectual foundations of Caribbean independence movements, we must now lead the charge for digital sovereignty. We cannot allow the same mistakes that characterized earlier eras – where Caribbean economies remained de-



pendent on exporting raw materials while importing finished goods – to be replicated in the digital realm,” he stated.

According to Prof. Robinson, the university’s role extends far beyond traditional education. He noted that in an era where artificial intelligence promises



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the use of AI and digital technologies – for better or for worse – depending on how they are deployed.

“We cannot afford to be spectators in this revolution, while other regions define the rules, and set the standards for AI. This is why this conference is so important, creating a space for necessary conversations about how we shape our own path in this rapidly evolving digital future,” she suggested.

The conference enters

Day 2 today where several presentations and panel discussions on a wide range of topics will take place.

The Antigua and Barbuda government is one of the main sponsors of the conference as is evidenced by the active participation of several Cabinet Ministers, including Foreign Minister, E.P. Chet Greene, Tourism Minister, Charles Fernandez and Education Minister, Daryll Matthew. Scores of public servants are also attending as delegates to the conference.

to reshape every aspect of human existence, universities like UWI must exercise thought leadership not just to enhance quality of life, but to ensure that the path to that enhancement runs through Caribbean agency rather than Caribbean dependency.

“We are uniquely positioned to lead this digital liberation because we understand our region’s complexities in ways that no external institution can. We know that our scattered islands and diverse territories face challenges that no algorithm developed in Silicon Valley or system designed in Singapore can fully comprehend,” he emphasised.

Meanwhile, CAF Regional Manager, Dr. Stacy Kennedy-Richards, noted that the Caribbean cannot afford to be left behind in the digital revolution now taking place.

“The rapid evolution of artificial intelligence is

reshaping societies, economies and the future of work. We are at a point of inflection with regard to





# High Praise for Sir Ronald Sanders

Prime Minister Gaston Browne has lavished much praise on Antigua and Barbuda's longest serving diplomat, Sir Ronald Sanders, who he described as 'a genius' and an extraordinary talent in the service of the country.

Speaking on the *Browne and Browne* show last Saturday, PM Browne engaged in a deeply respectful and insightful conversation about Sir Ronald Sanders, Antigua and Barbuda's Ambassador to the Organization of American States (OAS).

Prime Minister Browne offered high praise for his intellect, diplomacy, and service to three generations of Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party leadership—Sir Vere Bird, Sir Lester Bird, and now Prime Minister Gaston Browne.

The Prime Minister described Sir Ronald as a rare talent - 'a gifted writer and strategist' - whose work has shaped many of the key public addresses and policies under multiple administrations. Despite efforts by political opponents to discredit him, he noted, Sir Ronald remained resilient, described as having a "quiet demeanor but a resolve of steel".

Sir Ronald, who made a special guest appearance on the programme, credited the idea of hosting the OAS 55<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in Antigua and Barbuda directly to Prime Minister Browne, who envisioned the international gathering as a chance to showcase the country's diplomatic capacity and global relevance.

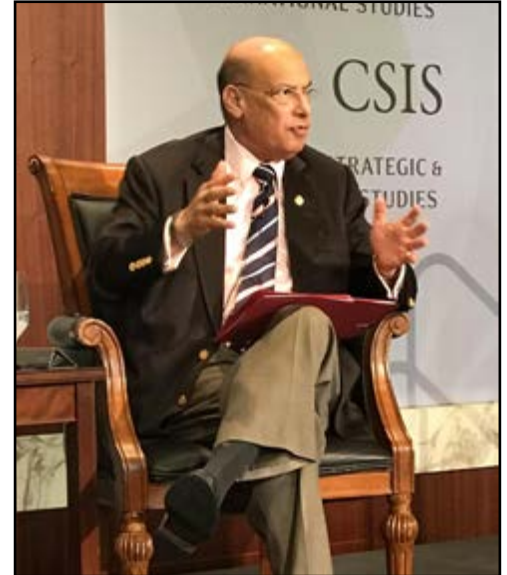
"With over 1,000 official delegates and another 1,000-plus participants from civil society organizations, the event promises major economic and diplomatic benefits. Hotel occupancy is expected to surge, local businesses—from restaurants to taxis—stand to profit, and hotel staff remain employed during what is typically a slower season.

"The delegates' extended stays and



**Prime Minister Gaston Browne** tourism activities will also result in additional tax revenue through the ABST (Antigua and Barbuda Sales Tax), creating a substantial financial injection into the local economy," Sir Ronald observed.

Additionally, he noted that diplomatically, the event symbolizes Antigua and Barbuda's leadership role among small island states and its growing influence in hemispheric and global affairs. As chair of the General Assembly, Antigua and Barbuda will be front and center, hosting powerful nations such as the United States, Canada, Brazil, Mexico, and Argentina, and ac-



**Antigua and Barbuda's longest serving diplomat, Sir Ronald Sander**

tively participating in the finalization of resolutions and declarations.

Sir Ron revealed that no OAS declaration now passes without consultation with Antigua and Barbuda, underscoring the nation's elevated position. This influence is the result of consistent and strategic leadership, supported by Prime Minister Browne and Foreign Minister E.P. Chet Greene.





## OAS Secretary General Ramdin says Antigua and Barbuda 'demonstrates leadership'



**OAS Secretary General Albert Ramdin (third from left) was met at the airport by FA Permanent Secretary Dr Clarence Pilgrim on Saturday. Director General Ann Marie Layne is second from right. The others are members of the SG's entourage**

Secretary of the Organisation of American States (OAS), Albert Ramdin, is congratulating Antigua and Barbuda for serving as host of the 55<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the organization this week.

SG Ramdin said Antigua and Barbuda has demonstrated its capacity to host major conferences with the successful hosting of the 4th Conference of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) 4 last year and therefore the OAS is 'very proud of Antigua and Barbuda'.

"This is an important moment to have this meeting in Antigua and Barbuda. I expect three things to emerge from the meeting.

Firstly, we will present our plans to make the OAS more relevant and a more recognized organization whether in terms of multilateralism and Antigua and Barbuda has played a role in organizing this important role. Secondly, we wish to focus on the critical issues that are playing out in the hemisphere such as democracy and human rights issues and I hope that Antigua and Barbuda will provide a forward looking agenda," he stated.

With the highest body in the hemisphere, the Summit of the Americas meeting in Dominican Republic in a few months, SG Ramdin is hoping that the Antigua and Barbuda meeting sets the tone for the discussions

that will take place at that gathering.

On the call by Prime Minister Gaston Browne stated intention to move a resolution at the General Assembly focusing on the issue of mental health for the June 25-27 meeting agenda, SG Ramdin noted that while health issues are dealt with by the Pan American Health Organisation, the issue is of concern for the entire hemisphere.

"Mental health in many

countries is indeed and issue that requires the fullest attention of the political authorities as well as medical authorities and I hope that at this meeting decisions will be taken to at least start the process of how to deal with this matter," he declared.

Antigua and Barbuda is creating history by hosting the OAS General Assembly. It will take place at the American University of Antigua Conference Centre.



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# 16 interns begin 6-week programme within APUA



Sixteen interns have started a six-week internship programme within the Antigua Public Utilities Authority (APUA) as part of its Summer Internship Programme (SIP).

The interns were welcomed into the organization at a formal ceremony held at the Conference Centre in the Treasury Building on Independence Drive. Senior Managers of

APUA, led by Chief Executive Officer, John Bradshaw and Chief Financial Officer, Roger Tonge, were on hand to welcome the young people to APUA.

Chairman of the SIP, Lyle Jackson, welcomed the interns noting that are now a part of what has become one of the most sought after, and prestigious internship programmes

in the Caribbean.

He noted that out of hundreds of applicants they have earned your place in a programme that has been changing lives, and shaping futures for decades. At APUA, he added, the organisation believes that its role in national development extends far beyond the delivery of electricity, water and telecommuni-







cations services.

“It includes investing in our most valuable asset... our people. SIP is a cornerstone of this commitment, and it’s more than an internship. It is a Launchpad for professional growth, personal discovery, and community leadership.

“SIP began with a simple but powerful goal... to provide young Antiguan and Barbudans with meaningful work experience. However, in 2012 we transformed SIP from a traditional internship, into a com-

prehensive developmental journey. The program not only nurtures technical skills, but the character, confidence, and competence that young professionals need to thrive in a changing world.

“Since then SIP has grown into what is now widely recognized as “The Caribbean’s Most Prestigious Internship Program”, he stated.

Human Resources Manager, Rodney Simon, offered words of advice to the 16 as they begin their assign-

ments within the various departments and division within APUA.

“Firstly, embrace a growth mindset view every task, challenge and feedback as an opportunity to learn and improve. Mistakes are part of the journey; what matters is your ability to learn and grow from them. Next, demonstrate reliability and initiative. Be punctual, dependable and proactive and to approach each day with enthusiasm, resilience and respect,” he advised.





## Antigua and Barbuda observes the 11th International Day of Yoga



**Several senior government representatives took part in the festivities, including Minister of Foreign Affairs, E.P Chet Greene, Tourism Minister, Charles Fernandez, Education Minister, Daryll Matthew and Permanent Secretary attached to Government House, Paula Fredrick-Hunte.**



Antigua and Barbuda joined 191 countries around the world in celebrating the 11th International Day of Yoga last Saturday. The event was organized by the Honorary Consul of India, Vijay Tewani, on behalf of the High Commission of India based in Guyana and accredited to Antigua and Barbuda.

Several senior government represen-

tatives took part in the festivities, including Minister of Foreign Affairs, E.P Chet Greene, Tourism Minister, Charles Fernandez, Education Minister, Daryll Matthew and Permanent Secretary attached to Government House, Paula Fredrick-Hunte.

Participants also included members of the diplomatic corps, invited guests, yoga enthusiasts as well as cadets

from the Antigua and Barbuda Defence Force.

According to Tewani, it was a privilege and proud moment to host this global event in Antigua and Barbuda. The theme for this year, “One Earth, One Health,” was highlighted with a special message from the Heart & Stroke Foundation, encouraging a happy and healthy life balance.

Marking the 10th anniversary of Yoga Day celebrations in Antigua and Barbuda, plaques and certificates were presented to sponsors and yoga instructors as tokens of appreciation for their continued commitment to promoting this holistic practice. The government ministers expressed their full support and pledged to continue helping this event grow even bigger in the years to come.

Meanwhile, The Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority was recognised for its support of yoga in Antigua and Barbuda, during the International Yoga Day celebrations held at the Coolidge Cricket Ground on June 21.

The award was presented to the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority in recognition of its ‘valuable contribution to the promotion and popularisation of yoga’.

Donyelle Bird-Browne, Wellness Pillar Lead at the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority, remarked, “We are really proud to support International Yoga Day. It’s a celebration that reflects the heart of what we offer as an internationally recognized wellness destination - connection, balance, and inspiration. Yoga brings people together in the spirit of well-being, and we’re grateful to be part of a movement that speaks to the future of meaningful travel to Antigua and Barbuda.”



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# Local News



## Jamall Prince pleads guilty for firearm-related charges

Jamall Prince of Seatons has been remanded to His Majesty's Prison after appearing before the court on Monday, to answer charges of unlawful possession of a firearm and the possession of ammunition.

The accused pleaded guilty to both charges, and the matter was adjourned to Wednesday, 26 June, when he is expected to re-appear in court for sentencing.

The charges stem from an operation conducted by police on 17 June, in the community of Seatons. During the operation, Prince reportedly fled from a property upon the arrival of police officers. He was pursued, apprehended, and an illegal firearm was subsequently recovered.

He was arrested, taken into custody, and later formally charged in connection with the offences.

Meanwhile, the police have arrested and jointly charged 23-year-old Taren Weston of Yorks and 25-year-old Malique Challenger of Potters for unlawful possession of a firearm and ammunition.

On Saturday, 21 June, police officers executed a search warrant at a property in Yorks, where both accused were present. During the search, the officers discovered one (1) .45mm Remington pistol, along with seven (7) rounds of matching ammunition and a quantity of camouflage clothing.



The two men were arrested and taken into custody.

They have since been formally charged and are expected to appear before the court sometime this week.

The police continue to intensify efforts in removing illegal firearms and ammunition off the nation's streets, and are encouraging the public to report any suspicious activity by contacting the Criminal Investigations Department at 462-3913 or Crimestoppers at 800-TIPS (8477).

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The poster features a vibrant, multi-colored background with radiating lines in shades of green, yellow, orange, and red. In the center, a group of performers in elaborate costumes and headdresses are dancing and singing. The Antigua and Barbuda coat of arms is visible in the top left corner. The text 'ANTIGUA CARNIVAL 2025' is prominently displayed in a large, bold, yellow font. Below it, the word 'TICKET' is written in a large, bold, black font, and 'OUTLETS' is written in a large, bold, yellow font. The text 'THE DEPARTMENT OF CREATIVE INDUSTRIES (OLD PARHAM ROAD)' is written in a smaller, black font. Below this, the names of the ticket outlets are listed: 'ROTI KING', 'COOL AND SMOOTH', 'APUA INET', 'EXOTIC ANTIGUA', and 'THE LARDER'. At the bottom, there are logos for Visa, Mastercard, Discover, and American Express. Below these logos, the text 'CASHLESS PAYMENT AVAILABLE AT CARNIVAL CITY' is written. At the very bottom, there are logos for various sponsors and partners, including CCIU, State Insurance, inet, Long Bay Brewing, Recab, LIAT 20, FBN, Royallton, and the Antigua and Barbuda coat of arms. Social media handles for Antigua's Carnival Festivals Commission and Antigua Carnival are also listed.

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## President's 10 completes training for its third cohort of young women



*The President's 10*, a leadership training programme especially tailored for girls in their teenage years, has successfully completed the training for another batch of trainees, Cohort 3.

The programme is the brainchild of the President of the Senate, Senator Alincia Grant, who sees the programme as an opportunity to provide

mentorship and training for participants who are drawn from 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> forms of secondary schools.

She explained that after serving for several years in the Senate she felt that the Antigua and Barbuda Legislature – Parliament - needed to sensitize the youth and encourage young girls about their role in nation building and the country's development; thus giving

life to *The President's 10*. It also served to provide guidance to the participants at a time when they are giving serious thought to their career choices with the hope that some may choose public life as possible politicians.

"In 2017 the inaugural President's 10 was launched and 10 bright brilliant young ladies were selected through an intense program comprising applica-





tion and interview and were introduced to our Parliament. In 2019 the second cohort were similarly welcomed into our hallowed halls. Cohort 3 started their training last October and it concluded this month,” she revealed.

President Grant said this year there were twelve girls due to the popularity of the programme. The young women were selected from the Antigua Girls High School (3), the Christ the King High School (6), St. Anthony’s Secondary School (1) and Clare Hall Secondary School (2).

An awards ceremony was held at the Pink Mongoose on Saturday night where the young women were presented with awards and certificates.

Guest Speaker, Chief Executive Officer of the Citizenship By Investment Programme, Charmaine Donovan noted that she grew up in a family dominated by boys, but she was never deterred by this fact as it served to fuel her ambition and to make her independent. “I learned—and what I want to share with all of you—is this: Your uniqueness is your strength. Just because you’re different doesn’t mean you can’t lead. In fact, it means that you bring something the world needs: a fresh perspective, a different approach, and a unique voice that no one

else can replicate.

“I didn’t let being the only girl in the family hold me back. Instead, I used it to fuel me. The challenge of constantly proving myself to my brothers turned into the fuel for my ambition,” she re-

marked.

Senator Kiz Nathaniel-Johnson served as host while the certificates were presented by Deputy Clerk of Parliament, Ondell Constant and consultant, Ramona Small.



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## 150 persons benefit from specialized eye-care services at SLBMC

Some 150 persons are this week receiving specialized eye-care services at the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre.

SLBMC Marketing and Communications Manager, Salma Crump, said the patients benefit from the service through a partnership between the Ministry of Health, the Medical Benefits Scheme and the Trinidad Eye Hospital.

She explained that through this partnership patients receive cataract surgery and other eye-care services



performed by visiting teams from the Trinidad Eye Hospital at regular interval.

“SLBMC is proud to support approximately 150 members of our community scheduled for cataract surgery and other procedures. Together with our dedicated team, along with partners Trinidad Eye Hospital, we’re helping restore sight and our community, one person at a time,” Crump stated.

The surgeries are being done at the SLBMC throughout this week.





## Success for national soca and calypso adjudication workshop



The Ministry of Creative Industries is celebrating the success of the national soca and calypso adjudication workshops held last Saturday and Sunday.

The workshops brought together a mix of seasoned adjudicators, emerging talent, and artists, all committed to enhancing the standards of adjudication within Antigua and Barbuda's thriving music culture. Sessions were highly engaging and thought-provoking, diving deeply into the interpretation and application of adjudication criteria across both Soca and Calypso genres.

These workshops are part of the Ministry's ongoing developmen-

tal program designed to empower creatives and cultural practitioners while positioning Antigua and Barbuda among the leading cultural destinations in the region.

Workshop facilitator and calypso legend Sylvester "King Socrates" Hodge applauded the depth of talent in the room and noted, "Antigua and Barbuda stands as one of the leaders in Calypso and Soca. The level of artistry here is commendable and continues to evolve."

**Director of Culture, Mr. Khan Cordice**, echoed this sentiment, stating, "*These sessions go beyond just improving the competitions they're about investing in the growth of both our artistes and our adjudicators. By doing so, we raise the national standard and strengthen our creative identity on an increasingly competitive global stage.*"

## NOTICE

### NOTICE TO ALL PARTY MONARCH ARTISTES QUARTERFINALS SUBMISSION DEADLINE

The Antigua and Barbuda Festivals Commission wishes to inform all artistes competing in the INET Party Monarch Quarterfinals that music submissions must be sent to [antiguasocamusic@gmail.com](mailto:antiguasocamusic@gmail.com) no later than Friday, June 27, 2025.

Please be reminded that the INET Party Monarch Quarterfinals are scheduled to take place on Tuesday, July 1st and Wednesday, July 2nd at Jack Idle Park, beginning promptly at 7:30 PM each night.

All artistes are urged to meet the submission deadline to avoid disqualification.



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# Regional News

## Guyana: Public Works Minister and family safe after shooting outside home

Minister of Public Works Juan Edghill says he and his family are safe after gunshots were discharged outside his South Ruimveldt, Georgetown home on Saturday night.

“The Lord has been our protector. The Edghill’s family is safe in God’s hands. Thank you for all your kind thoughts and prayers,” he posted on his Facebook page, followed by the text of Psalm 23.

According to Stabroek News, the minister said his wife was in the yard of the residence when the incident occurred but was not hurt.



“A vehicle came through shooting.... More than 15 spent shells were picked up,” Edghill was quoted as saying.

The incident comes three weeks after a property owned by Edghill was destroyed by fire.

Initially, it was believed

the June 1 blaze at the Outreach Ministries International – Winners’ Cathedral at D’Urban Street, Lodge, Georgetown, was caused by an electrical fire.

However, investigators found CCTV footage of an individual in a hooded shirt entering the building shortly before the fire started, and the Ministry of Home Affairs said in a statement that it was being treated as arson.

Police have not indicated whether the shooting and the fire are connected. (*Loop Caribbean*)

## Dominica: Hospital condemns circulation of video on social media showing patient “in compromising state”

The Dominica Hospitals Authority (DHA) has described as an “unfortunate incident” a video circulating on social media displaying a patient in a very compromising state at the Dominica-China Friendship Hospital.

In a statement, the DHA said that the “this unfortunate incident has raised serious concerns” and that it remains resolute in its commitment to providing quality healthcare in a confidential and safe environment for all patients.

“This unfortunate situation is clearly at variance to the overwhelming commendations by the family, recognizing the efforts of our trauma team in effectively managing their loved one. This was reinforced by the overseas medical facility to which the patient was successfully transferred to,” the DHA said in the statement.

It gave no details regarding the incident, but noted that “without reservation, the DHA strongly condemns circulation of such video in the public



domain.

“We are fully committed to aggressively investigating this matter and will deal severely with any staff member if found to be responsible or involved in this breach of privacy and trust.”

The DHA said as it moves forward with the investigation, is encouraging “anyone with information to contact our Quality Department” adding that “anonymous reports are welcomed.” (*Loop Caribbean*)





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# Regional News



## Politician Lawrence Rowe wins \$1.3m in police abuse case over unlawful arrest and assault

The Supreme Court has ruled that former People's National Party (PNP) politician Lawrence Rowe was unlawfully arrested, assaulted, and maliciously prosecuted by a policeman more than a decade ago.

The judgment also carries a stern reminder to law enforcement on the proper procedure to avoid burdening taxpayers.

Justice Dale Staple, in a ruling on March 24, 2025, awarded Rowe nearly \$1.3 million in damages for false imprisonment, assault, and malicious prosecution arising from a 2014 incident in Allman Town, St Andrew.

“There was no lawful basis for his arrest, detention, charge, and prosecution. I am satisfied that he was assaulted in the process of his unlawful arrest,” declared Staple in the 17-page written judgment that was published on the court's website late last week.

“I would remind the police that in the exercise of their power to arrest, charge and prosecute, that they should be mindful of the correct procedure and practice required for the several offences on the books (especially the more common ones encountered in routine beat duty) and carry out the correct processes,” Staple cautioned.

The judge said, “there needs to be more emphasis on this during initial training and continuous training and reminders for serving members of the force.”

Staple added: “By better understanding and application of the appropriate steps to take before effecting an arrest, charge and prosecution, our hardworking members of the force can significantly reduce unnecessary confrontation with members of the public, improve relationships with them, reduce litigation and ultimately save the tax payers a fortune in damages and



other litigation costs that have to be expended to defend these suits.”

Rowe was the PNP's Kingston Central constituency secretary to Ronald Thwaites, who was the member of parliament at the time of the incident. Much later, he was named the PNP's caretaker. He was removed in January 2025, after which he said he resigned from the opposition party.

Rowe has welcomed the Supreme Court decision, calling it an affirmation of his rights and a reinforcement of justice, due process, and accountability.

“This case was never just about me as an individual but about ensuring that the rule of law prevails and that citizens are protected from any abuse of power,” he said in a media statement Sunday. He said “aspects” of the judgment are being appealed.

Rowe filed the lawsuit against the Crown, represented by the attorney general, and Constable Clayton Bromfield, who was the arresting officer, on

March 7, 2018. He had also claimed a breach of his constitutional rights to a fair hearing.

The trial took place on March 17, 2025.

The March 27, 2014 encounter, according to Rowe's testimony, occurred on Stephen Street near the Allman Town Police Station. He said he was walking through the area when Constable Clayton Bromfield accosted him and ordered him to go into his yard using foul language.

Rowe said he objected and threatened to report the officer, at which point Bromfield grabbed him by the waistband “almost touching his crotch” and hauled him to the station in a humiliating manner.

He was arrested and charged with disobeying a police command, indecent language, and resisting arrest. He was later granted bail and appeared in court on April 10, 2014. He was freed of all charges in the Half-Way Tree Lay Magistrate's Court in September 2014.

Crucially, the Supreme Court had only Rowe's version of the events, as the constable failed to appear to testify, and the judge rejected a last-minute bid to admit his written statement.

“I was not satisfied that the requirements under section 31E [of the Evidence Act] had been met by the defendants,” Staple said, noting the officer was being “uncooperative” despite efforts, including the possibility of remote testimony.

Nonetheless, Staple said Rowe was a “credible and reliable” witness, whose testimony was “not at all shaken in cross-examination”.

Rejecting the state's defence, the judge said there was no lawful basis for the arrest.

“There is no evidence that the offi-



# Regional News

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cer had a lawful basis for telling the claimant (Rowe) to go into his yard," the judge wrote, adding that Rowe had a "right to assert his right to freedom of movement."

Staple concluded that none of the alleged actions by Rowe amounted to "disorderly and disturbing the peace" under Section 11 of the Town and Communities Act, nor was there evidence that Bromfield attempted to obtain Rowe's name and address as required under Section 23 of the law before effecting an arrest.

Citing *Shaquille Ashley v R*, the judge said: "A person has an unqualified right at common law to resist an unlawful arrest."

"There is also no evidence that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Defendant (Bromfield), at the time of making the arrest, tried to ascertain the name of the claimant," he wrote, noting further that "even if he did [resist], he would have been entitled to resist the arrest as the arrest was unlawful."

On malicious prosecution, Staple said there was no basis to charge Rowe in

the first place. "There is, again, no evidence from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Defendant as to what the claimant did which would have warranted the 2<sup>nd</sup> Defendant having any belief, let alone an honest belief, that the claimant was behaving in a disorderly manner..."

He continued: "He (Bromfield) had no basis for prosecuting the claimant for resisting arrest, as his arrest of the claimant was unlawful, and the claimant was entitled to resist the unlawful arrest."

As for the claim of assault, the judge found that Rowe was unlawfully handled and injured in the process.

"The raising of the baton, the grabbing of the claimant in his waistband, the flinging of the claimant on a wall, causing the bruise to the shoulder and arms, and placing him in cuffs, etc, would all amount to assaults," the judge ruled.

Staple awarded Rowe damages under several headings - \$350,000 for malicious prosecution; \$400,000 for false imprisonment; \$500,000 for assault

and pain and suffering, and \$5,000 in special damages for transportation expenses.

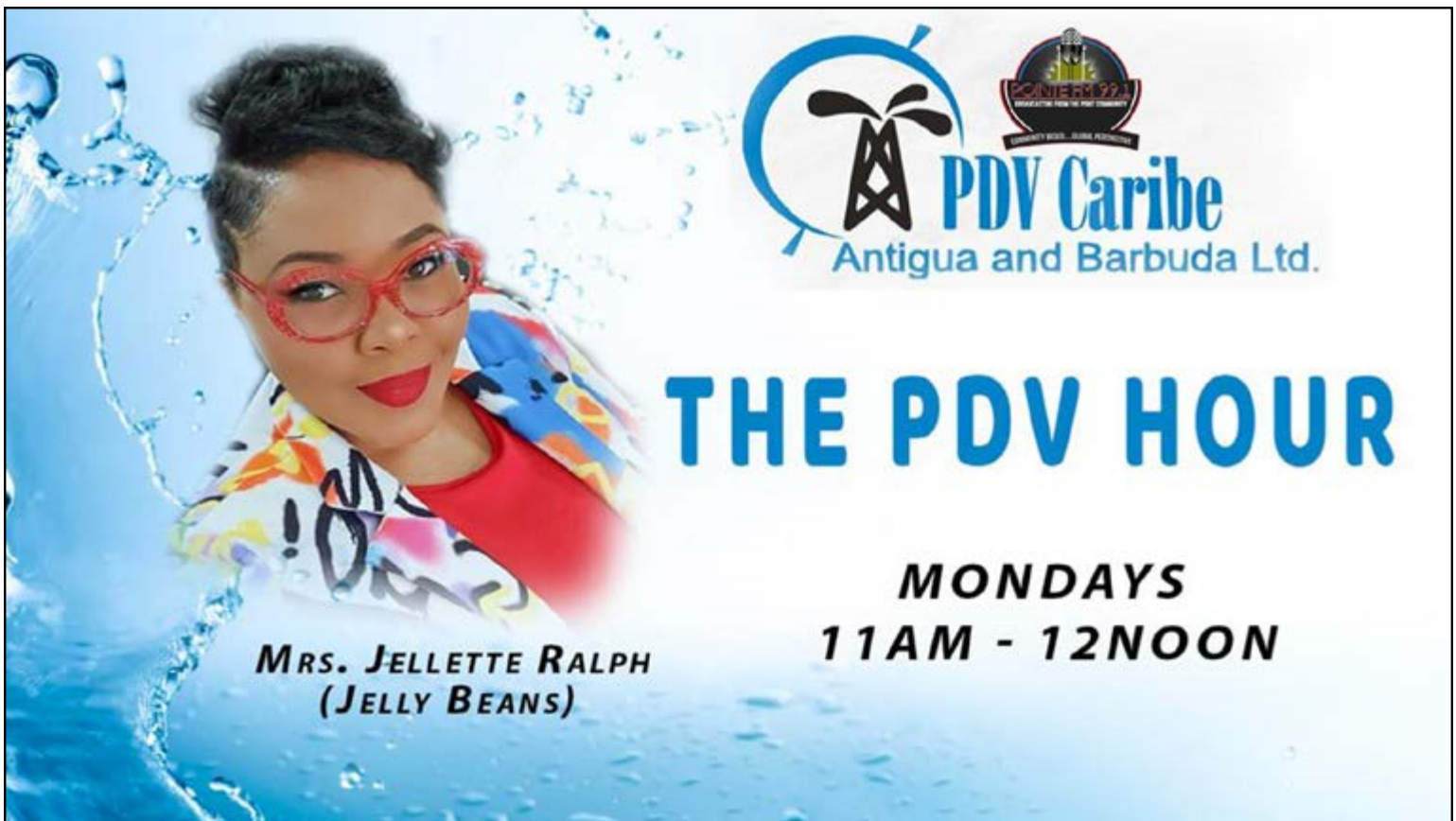
Each sum carries interest of 3 per cent from either March 7, 2018, or March 27, 2014, depending on the category.

The defendants are also to pay Rowe's legal fees.

And while Rowe had no medical evidence for the assault, and the charges had been brought before a lower court with limited public visibility, the judge nonetheless found his suffering real, citing the humiliating nature of the encounter and his role in the community as the director of a charity and a figure of standing.

However, the judge declined to award vindictory or aggravated damages, stating that "there was no 'deplorable abuse of power' arising from the evidence."

Rowe was represented by attorney John Clarke while attorneys Romario Miller and Rykel Chong appeared for the defendants. (*Jamaica Gleaner*)



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## Nine killed in Kyiv in intense Russian air attack

At least nine people have been killed and several injured in an overnight Russian missile and drone attack in the Kyiv region, the interior minister has said.

In a post on social media, Ihor Klymenko said residential areas, hospitals and sports infrastructure had been hit.

At least six of those killed were in a high-rise building in the capital, Kyiv's mayor Vitali Klitschko said. The city's military administration said a further 33 people had been injured.

In the latest barrage, 352 Russian drones and 16 missiles targeted Ukrainian territory, mostly in the Kyiv area, the Ukrainian air force said.

President Volodymyr Zelensky is travelling to London on Monday for talks with PM Keir Starmer on UK military support for Ukraine.

One Kyiv resident, Valeriy Mankuta, 33, said he "woke up in the rubble" after his building was hit by what authorities said was a missile. He escaped his apartment by climbing out of the window.

"There were bricks on me, there was something in my mouth. It was total hell," he told Reuters news agency.

Another resident, Natalia Marshavska, described hearing a drone buzzing above her apartment before it exploded. The force of the blast threw her across the

room, shattering the windows, she told AFP news agency.

Smoke began billowing everywhere, she said, adding: "It was horrible."

high-rise building that was still burning.

The entrance to one of Kyiv's metro stations - where people regularly take shelter - was damaged, and class-

posted on X.

Speaking to reporters this week in the capital, Ukrainian commander-in-chief Oleksandr Syrsky vowed to step up Ukrainian strikes on Russia.

"We will not just sit in defence because this brings nothing and eventually leads to the fact that we still retreat, lose people and territories," he said.

It comes as the capital is still reeling from overnight Russian attacks on Tuesday which left at least 28 people dead and more than 100 injured.

The attack was among the biggest on the capital since the start of Russia's full-scale war which began in February 2022.

Diplomatic efforts to end the three-year war have stalled. The last direct talks between the two sides finished almost three weeks ago with agreement only on limited exchanges of prisoners and the bodies of the dead.

No new talks have been scheduled.

Zelensky had been due to meet Donald Trump on the side lines of the G7 conference last week, but the meeting was cancelled after Trump left the conference early amid the escalating crisis in the Middle East.

The Ukrainian leader is due to attend a dinner during a Nato summit in the Netherlands that begins on Tuesday. (*BBC News*)



Russia has intensified its air attacks against Ukrainian cities in recent weeks, sending large waves of missiles, drones and decoys designed to overwhelm Ukrainian air defences.

It is a tactic that Ukrainian forces are struggling to defend against.

Many thousands of Kyiv residents were forced into the shelters in the early hours of Monday morning as drones flew overhead and explosions shook the city.

Ukraine's emergencies service shared footage showing shocked residents being led away from a destroyed

rooms and dormitories at one of the city's universities were also hit.

Separately, one person reportedly died after a drone struck a hospital in the city of Bila Tserkva just outside the capital.

On Monday, an attack on the southern Odesa region killed two people and wounded a dozen more, local authorities said.

Zelensky said a school in the area was hit and almost completely destroyed.

"None of these Russian strikes are accidental - the Russian army knows exactly where it is targeting," he



## Dangerous heat wave grips U.S. with record temperatures



Tens of millions of people across the Midwest and the mid-Atlantic are under heat alerts Monday as a dangerous heat wave that began over the weekend continues to move through the region.

The rare June heat wave broke about 20 records Sunday and is expected to break more Monday. According to The Weather Channel, the city of Mitchell, South Dakota, broke its daily high Saturday when temperatures climbed to 104 degrees Fahrenheit, smashing its previous record of 101 degrees.

Records were also set Saturday across Wyoming and Minnesota, according to the channel.

Across the Midwest, the mid-Atlantic and up to Maine, 148 million people were under heat alerts Monday. Extreme heat warnings have been issued for 75 million people in nearly a dozen

major cities, including Chicago, Boston, New York City, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Detroit, Baltimore and Washington, D.C.

Chicago up to Boston could be experiencing heat index values between 100 and 110 degrees.

“Hot temperatures, oppressive humidity and very light winds are expected today, leading to dangerous levels of heat,” the National Weather Service in Boston said in a post on X. Tuesday will be “the hottest day of the stretch,” the agency said.

“Air temperatures in many areas could pass the century mark, and it may feel like the low 110s in some areas,” the agency said. “This is a dangerous level of heat, with no significant relief at night!”

New York City Mayor Eric Adams urged residents to take precautions.

“Our first heat wave of the summer is here, and it’s so important that New Yorkers across the five boroughs take care of themselves over the next few days,” he said in a post on X. “That’s right. SEVERAL DAYS of EXTREME heat.”

Relief from the sweltering temperatures will come Wednesday in the Midwest and Thursday in the Northeast when the heat dome starts to weaken.

In other parts of the country, severe storms will be impacting regions from northern Kansas to Michigan on Monday, bringing damaging winds, large hail and possible tornadoes. From west Texas to southern Wisconsin, the storms will bring a risk of flash floods. (NBC News)



## Former White House physician to appear before House committee investigating Biden's mental fitness



Dr. Kevin O'Connor, the former White House physician who treated then-President Joe Biden, will appear for a deposition before the House Oversight Committee on July 9, a source familiar with the committee's schedule confirmed to NBC News.

O'Connor agreed to appear after being subpoenaed by the committee's chairman, Rep. James Comer, R-Ky., who is spearheading an investigation into Biden's alleged cognitive decline while in office. Comer is specifically focused on Biden's use of an autopen for official government business.

In addition to O'Connor, the Oversight Committee has scheduled transcribed interviews with former Biden White House aides Neera Tanden, Anthony Bernal, Ashley Williams and Annie Tomasini. Those aides all scheduled interviews without being subpoenaed.

O'Connor could be a key witness in the committee's attempt to prove allegations that Biden's diminished capacity led to key decisions being made by people other than the president. The committee has yet to offer any specific evidence to back up that argument.

As for the use of the autopen,

the Department of Justice's office of legal counsel issued a memo in 2005 that concluded that the practice was legal. A federal appeals court ruled as recently as 2024 that the "the absence of a writing does not equate to proof that a commutation did not occur," when it relates to the use of a presidential autopen.

Biden himself has been insistent that he was the one making the decisions while in office and his former aides have consistently rejected any claim that anyone other than the president was in charge.

"Any accusation that Presi-

dent Biden was not making decisions is false. President Biden made the decisions about the pardons and the executive orders he issued, and the legislation he signed into law," a former official, who was not authorized to speak on Biden's behalf, told NBC News.

The Republican-led Senate Judiciary Committee has also signaled interest in investigating Biden's mental acuity. The panel held its first public hearing on the topic last week, but the witness list did not include anyone with first-hand knowledge of Biden's mental fitness or decision-making while in office. *(NBC News)*





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## First celestial image unveiled from revolutionary telescope



A powerful new telescope in Chile has released its first images, showing off its unprecedented ability to peer into the dark depths of the universe.

In one picture, vast colourful gas and dust clouds swirl in a star-forming region 9,000 light years from Earth.

The Vera C Rubin observatory, home to the world's most powerful digital camera, promises to transform our understanding of the universe.

If a ninth planet exists in our solar system, scientists say this telescope would find it in its first year.

It should detect killer asteroids in striking distance of Earth and map the Milky Way. It will also answer crucial questions about dark matter, the mysterious substance that makes up most of our universe.

This once-in-a-generation moment for astronomy is the start of a continuous 10-year filming of the southern night

sky.

"I personally have been working towards this point for about 25 years. For decades we wanted to build this phenomenal facility and to do this type of survey," says Professor Catherine Heymans, Astronomer Royal for Scotland.

The UK is a key partner in the survey and will host data centres to process the extremely detailed snapshots as the telescope sweeps the skies capturing everything in its path.

Vera Rubin could increase the number of known objects in our solar system tenfold.

BBC News visited the Vera Rubin observatory before the release of the images.

It sits on Cerro Pachón, a mountain in the Chilean Andes that hosts several observatories on private land dedicated to space research.

Very high, very dry, and very dark. It is a perfect location to watch the stars.

Maintaining this darkness is sacrosanct. The bus ride up and down the windy road at night must be done cautiously, because full-beam headlights must not be used.

The inside of the observatory is no different.

There is a whole engineering unit dedicated to making sure the dome surrounding the telescope, which opens to the night sky, is dark – turning off rogue LEDs or other stray lights that could interfere with the astronomical light they are capturing from the night sky.

The starlight is "enough" to navigate, commissioning scientist Elana Urbach explains.

One of the observatory's big goals, she adds, is to "understand the history of the Universe" which means being



able to see faint galaxies or supernova explosions that happened “billions of years ago”.

“So, we really need very sharp images,” Elana says.

Each detail of the observatory’s design exhibits similar precision.

It achieves this through its unique three-mirror design. Light enters the telescope from the night sky, hits the primary mirror (8.4m diameter), is reflected onto the secondary mirror (3.4m) back onto a third mirror (4.8m) before entering its camera.

The mirrors must be kept in impeccable condition. Even a speck of dust could alter the image quality.

The high reflectivity and speed of this allow the telescope to capture a lot of light which Guillem Megias, an active optics expert at the observatory, says is “really important” to observe things

from “really far away which, in astronomy, means they come from earlier times”.

The camera inside the telescope will repeatedly capture the night sky for ten years, every three days, for a Legacy Survey of Space and Time.

At 1.65m x 3m, it weighs 2,800kg and provides a wide field of view.

It will capture an image roughly every 40 seconds, for about 8-12 hours a night thanks to rapid repositioning of the moving dome and telescope mount.

It has 3,200 megapixels (67 times more than an iPhone 16 Pro camera), making it so high-resolution that it could capture a golf ball on the Moon and would require 400 Ultra HD TV screens to show a single image.

“When we got the first photo up here, it was a special moment,” Mr Megias

said.

“When I first started working with this project, I met someone who had been working on it since 1996. I was born in 1997. It makes you realise this is an endeavour of a generation of astronomers.”

It will be down to hundreds of scientists around the world to analyse the stream of data alerts, which will peak at around 10 million a night.

The survey will work on four areas: mapping changes in the skies or transient objects, the formation of the Milky Way, mapping the Solar System, and understanding dark matter or how the universe formed.

But its biggest power lies in its constancy. It will survey the same areas over and over again, and every time it detects a change, it will alert scientists. *(BBC News)*



## DAILY PROGRAMMING




**EARLY VIBRATIONS** 6AM-10AM MON. - FRI.  
WITH GREMSTA

**THE RUSH HOUR SHOW** 5PM-7PM MON. - FRI.  
WITH ROGER LAKE 6AM-9AM SATURDAYS

**TOUCHLINE** 7PM-9PM MON. - THURS.  
WITH EPILUS

**BAD COMPANY** 2PM-6PM THURS. 12PM-4PM SATURDAYS  
LIVE FROM THE V.I. & 1PM-5PM ON SUNDAYS

**REGGAE INSPIRATION** 9PM-12AM MON. THURS. SUNDAY  
WITH SELECTOR KEEGAN

**JAH WADADLI** 7PM-9PM FRIDAYS  
WITH DJ JAH WADADLI



# Sports News



## More success for Crushers in ABCA's Super40 Cup

Pigotts Crushers recorded their second win in three matches in the Antigua and Barbuda Cricket Association's (ABCA) Super40 Cup competition on Sunday.

After losing their opening encounter to the defending champions PIC Insurance Liberta Blackhawks, the Crushers recorded their second successive win by overpowering the All Saints Pythons by 103 runs in their Zone A affair at the Mack Pond playing field in All Saints.

The Crushers made 207 for six off their allotted 40 overs after winning the toss and opting to bat. Captain and opener Kadeem Henry hit 82 off 106 balls, and Uri Smith made 28. Shaquan Reifer took three for 36.

In reply, the Pythons were dismissed for 104 in 23.5 overs. Conroy Semple struck 31 off 35 balls. Dion Samuel snatched four for 20.

CMW New Winthorpes Lions continued their good start to the competition, recording their second win in as many matches by snatching a four-wicket victory against the Jennings Tigers in their Zone B encounter at



**Pigotts Crushers captain Kadeem Henry**

New Winthorpes.

The Jennings Tigers were dismissed for 140 in 36.5 overs after being sent in to bat. Opener Paul Miller hit 38, and Jahiem Africa scored 33. Demari Benta picked up four for 21.

The Lions achieved victory at 142 for six in 32 overs. Cameron Pennyfeather struck 38, and Greg Skeple hit 32 not out. Matthew Miller and Glenton Williams each picked up two

wickets for the Jennings Tigers, who lost for the first time after winning their two previous matches.

After losing their first encounter by 43 runs to the Jennings Tigers, the Bolans Blasters claimed their first win with an 86-run victory against Tertiary Institutions and Schools in their Zone B affair at the Pigotts playing field.

The Bolans Blasters were all out for 183 in 38 overs

after winning the toss and electing to bat. Javaughn James hit 51 off 62 balls; there was a contribution of 45 extras, including 39 wides; and Hughan Tonge made 41. Tazio Watson captured four for 23.

In reply, Tertiary Institutions and Schools were bundled out for 87 in 18.5 overs. Captain Yohance Marcellin hit 35, and Mervin Higgins snapped up four for 10.

But the Zone A encounter between Wayne's Electrical Services Rising Sun Spartans and Caribbean Union Bank (CUB) Bethesda Golden Eagles was abandoned due to rain at the Rising Sun playing field in St. John's.

Rising Sun Spartans made 90 for eight off 15 overs after being sent in to bat. Opener Jahiem Norde struck 38 off 31 balls, including four fours and two sixes. Off-spinner James Cornelius took four for 15.

In reply, the Bethesda Golden Eagles reached 51 for three off eight overs when rain came and forced the match to be abandoned. Opener Tron Payne was not out on 22 off 19 balls.

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## Trendsetters win first ABFA's Women's Knockout Classic



**Players of the Empire Trendsetters celebrate after winning the first ABFA's Women's Knockout Classic at the ABFA Technical Center at Paynters on Sunday, June 22, 2025. (ABFA Media)**

Empire Trendsetters won the first in a series of three women's knockout classic competitions, which are organized by the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association (ABFA), on Sunday evening.

The Trendsetters clinched the title by prevailing 2-1 on penalty kicks against Cutting Edge FC in the final after both teams battled to a goalless draw at the end of regulation time at the ABFA Technical Center.

On their way to the final of the eight-team women's competition, the Trendsetters, who received a cash prize of EC\$2,500 for winning the championship, prevailed

4-3 against Lady Fort Road in the semi-finals.

Empire Trendsetters also snatched a 4-3 victory on penalty kicks against Lady Masters after both teams fought to a 1-1 draw at the end of regulation time in their opening encounter.

Lady Fort Road advanced to the semi-finals after being awarded victory via default against Lady Five P's Wadadli, who failed to show up for their opening round encounter.

Cutting Edge, who claimed the EC\$1,500 runners-up cash prize, booked their spot in the final with a 2-1 victory on penalty kicks against

Wadadli United after both teams fought to a 2-2 draw at the end of regulation time in their semi-final encounter.

Cutting Edge hammered Young Warriors 9-0 in their opening encounter. Wadadli United advanced to the semi-finals after being awarded victory via default against Ottos Tigress FC, who failed to show up for their opening encounter.

The ABFA has also scheduled knockout competitions for June 29 and July 6 at the same venue ahead of its national women's league, which is slated to commence in August.



## Joseph and Matthews Headline CWI/WIPA Awards



**Players of the 1975 West Indies champion ICC World Cup team at the 8th annual CWI/WIPA Awards Gala at the Wyndham Grand Barbados Sam Lord's Castle on Sunday, June 22, 2025.**

Shamar Joseph and Hayley Matthews emerged as the major award recipients at the 8th annual CWI/WIPA Awards Gala held on Sunday night at the Wyndham Grand Barbados Sam Lord's Castle, where Caribbean cricket's finest gathered to honour excellence and reflect on a golden milestone in West Indies history.

The ceremony also marked the 50th anniversary of the West Indies' groundbreaking victory at the 1975 Prudential World Cup — a moment immortalized when Sir Clive Lloyd's team defeated Australia by 17 runs at Lord's to become the first world champions of the sport.

Surviving members of that

legendary squad including Sir Clive, Sir Vivian Richards, Deryck Murray, Sir Andy Roberts, and Sir Joel Garner were present, receiving standing ovations from players and guests alike for a triumph that continues to inspire generations.

Barbados Prime Minister Mia Mottley, who participated in the presentation of several awards, praised both the legacy of the 1975 team and the current crop of players.

"As we paid tribute to the legends who made it possible, it was also a reminder; legacy is not a trophy, it is fuel... Congratulations to all of tonight's award winners... Let us keep pushing, keep rising, and above all

else, keep rallying round the West Indies," she posted on Instagram afterwards.

Joseph, whose sensational Test debut against Australia in January 2024 captivated the cricketing world, was named Test Player of the Year.

Matthews, the inspirational West Indies Women's captain, was a double awardee, claiming both the Women's ODI and T20I Player of the Year titles in recognition of her consistent brilliance with bat and ball.

Among the other winners, Shai Hope was recognised as Men's ODI Player of the Year for his continued leadership and performance with the bat.

Antiguan Alzarri Joseph took home the Men's T20I Player of the Year award, while Nicholas Pooran was acknowledged as the Regional T20 Player of the Year.

In the domestic circuit, Justin Greaves was awarded CG United Super50 Cup Player of the Year, and Mikyle Louis claimed the West Indies Championship Player of the Year honour.

In the women's game, Kyrcia Knight earned the CG United Women's Super50 Cup Player of the Year, and Plaffiana Millington was named CWI T20 Blaze Player of the Year.



# Rangpur Riders name squad to defend Global Super League title



**Players of the Rangpur Riders**

The defending champions, Rangpur Riders, have confirmed a powerful 16-man squad for the 2025 Exxon-Mobil Guyana Global Super League (GSL), which will be staged at the Guyana National Stadium in Providence from July 10 to 18.

In the 2024 edition, the Riders made a dramatic turnaround after a rough start—losing their first three matches without registering a point—before storming back to win their last three games and ultimately lift the trophy.

With a combination of explosive batting, disciplined bowling, and composed leadership, they cemented themselves as worthy champions in the GSL's thrilling inaugural season.

A powerhouse franchise in the Bangladesh Premier League (BPL), the Rangpur Riders boast a history of success, including their 2017 BPL title.

Known for consistency, the Riders have reached the playoffs in each of the last three BPL seasons and now return to Guyana looking to defend their GSL crown.

They will once again be led by the inspirational Nurul Hasan Sohan, with returning match-winners like Soumya Sarkar—who topped the run charts last season—and leading pacer Kamrul Islam Rabbi anchoring the core.

The squad features a balanced mix

of experience and youth, including Bangladesh internationals Mohammed Naim Sheikh, Mahidul Islam Ankon, Mohammed Saif Hassan, Abu Haider Rony, Rakibul Hasan, and Yasir Ali Chowdhury.

Strengthening their overseas lineup, the Riders have secured the services of West Indian batting powerhouse Kyle Mayers, South African wrist-spinner Tabraiz Shamsi, Pakistani all-rounder Iftikhar Ahmed, and top-order Afghan batter Ibrahim Zadran.

The squad is rounded out by promising talents Akif Javed, Harmmeet Singh, and Khawaja Nafay.



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# Sports

TUESDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2025



## Buckley's 3Js win ABSCA's Men's 30-Over Championship



**Marcko Inc. Buckley's 3Js captured the title in the Antigua Barbuda Softball Cricket Association's WTP 93.5 FM Men's 30-Over Championship at Powells on Sunday, June 22, 2025. (Photos courtesy of ABSCA)**

Second seed Marcko Inc. Buckley's 3Js have captured the title in the Antigua Barbuda Softball Cricket Association's (ABSCA) WTP 93.5 FM Men's 30-Over Championship.

The Buckley's 3Js secured the title by pulling off a four-wicket victory against top seed Rackaman Construction Strictly Business in the final at the Powells playing field on Sunday.

Strictly Business were restricted to 164 for eight off their allotted 30 overs. Kim George hit 68, there was a contribution of 22 extras, Raymond Ledette scored 20, and Melvin Charles made 18.

Richie Thomas captured three for 27, and Xavier Otto claimed three for 33.

Buckley's 3Js achieved victory at

165 for six with seven balls to spare. Player of the match Denley Thomas struck 48 not out, Charanlall Ramjohn hit 31, Gregson Merrick scored 28, and Steve Martin made 17.

Owen Graham picked up two for 27, and Melvin Charles took two for 35.

Meanwhile, Goody's Taxi Service and Tours 300 and Mix Up Stars claimed contrasting wins during two opening-round matches in the ABSCA's Men's T20 competition on Sunday.

300 snatched an 18-run victory against Bryson's Shipping and Insurance Bullets at Powells.

300 made 141 for seven off their allotted 20 overs. Player of the match Kennedy Tonge hit 39, Justin Periera cracked 26, Veston Lewis scored 23,



**Player of the final Denley Thomas of Buckley's 3Js**

and Richard Dyer struck 22. Deran Benta claimed two for 19, and Andra Samuel picked up two for 50.

In reply, the Bullets were dismissed for 123 in 19.3 overs. Deran Benta hammered 47, including seven sixes; Andra Samuel hit 21, and Vernon Samuel scored 13.

Dwayne George snapped up four wickets for eight runs, Vernel Isadore snatched two for 11, Kennedy Tonge claimed two for 23, and

Justin Periera captured two for 48.

But Mix Up Stars won their opening match against PMS without a ball being bowled. The Mix Up Stars were awarded victory via default after PMS failed to provide the balls for the encounter to take place.