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Each week starting Nov. 13th one lucky customer will win a VIP Junkanoo Vacation inclusive of a 2-night stay at the Atlantis Hotel & Resort\* + 5 Junkanoo VIP passes OR a trip for two to Trinidad & Tobago's 2010 carnival inclusive of airfare, hotel accommodation and costumes\*\*.

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Promotion runs from November 6th to December 18th 2009.

**Happy Junkanoo!**

See entry-form for more details

\*Includes double occupancy stay in the Royal Towers at Atlantis Hotel & Resort from Dec. 25th - 27th, 2009.

\*\*Includes costumes, food, drinks and entertainment for 2 on Feb. 15th 2010 with the Island People band.

**ESSO**

LOCAL NEWS

## Tourist robbery in Bahamas makes front page news in Canada

By MEGAN REYNOLDS  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
mreynolds@tribunemedia.net

A CANADIAN father robbed at gunpoint while on a Segway tour with his wife and 16 other cruise ship passengers told of his terror on the front page of an Ontario newspaper.

Davie Laitinen told the Windsor Star how he feared for his life and prayed to see his children again as an armed bandit pressed a shotgun barrel against the base of his skull while forcing him to lie face down in the dirt.

Mr Laitinen and his wife Cindy were among the 18 cruise ship passengers touring the Bahamas Association for Social Health's (BASH) Earth Village on Friday, November 20, when they were robbed at gunpoint by two armed men.

The robberies have been reported extensively in the international press building a negative impression of the islands which the Ministry of Tourism and Aviation is attempting to mitigate.

But Mr Laitinen and his wife have been so tainted by the robbery he said he would not even look at Nassau if he returned to the cruise ship port.

Mr Laitinen and his wife

were among a group of nine Disney Cruise Line passengers held up on the Segway eco-tour just 20 minutes before a group of nine Royal Caribbean passengers were robbed metres away.

At first Mr Laitinen thought the robbery was part of a pirate themed play, but the reality of the armed robbery soon set in.

His tour guide dropped to the ground and the father-of-two then saw the men's shotguns. He too dropped to the ground between his wife and the armed robbers as panic set in.

Mr Laitinen feared he would never again see his daughters, Brianna, 10, and Naomi, 8, as a shotgun was pressed against the base of his skull and \$400 was taken from his wallet.

The family man, who works in the Windsor Star newspaper's advertising services department, told his newspaper: "I did feel the gun on the back of my head. I just wanted them to leave."

"I wanted to see my kids. I remember trying to breathe properly, because I was getting all the different emotions tied up."

"I didn't want to lose my cool and get somebody hurt. I constantly tried to count down from five, just trying to keep my

breathing in check."

While lying on the ground Mr Laitinen heard the second tour group approaching and stayed still while they endured the same experience. However, he said, their robbery was even more violent as their tour guide was kicked and gun butted into a ditch and a shot was fired.

The gunmen then fled and the Royal Caribbean group's tour guide called for help while the Disney group untied their tour guide's arms from a stick behind his back.

Disney Cruise Lines have tried to compensate Mr Laitinen and his wife by giving them free fine dining upgrades on the boat, returning their excursion money and offering them a free excursion on a different island in addition to other perks.

Mr Laitinen will also only be charged half price of his next cruise with Disney, but he said he will not return to Nassau.

"If I did I would stay on the boat and look at the other side," Mr Laitinen told the Windsor Star.

"I would look at the ocean. I wouldn't even look at the island itself. That's how tainted I am with that island."

To read his full story log on to [www.windsorstar.com](http://www.windsorstar.com).



MOTORISTS enjoy newly-paved Shirley Street.

## Shirley Street repaving an 'extraordinary road building achievement'

THE governing FNM party has hailed the repaving of Shirley Street by the Ministry of Works as an "extraordinary road-building achievement".

The party congratulated Minister of Works Neko Grant, his staff and contractors who worked on the project for completing the repaving of a large section of one of Nassau's main traffic arteries – between Mackey and Frederick Streets – so swiftly.

"In previous years it would have taken many weeks and much inconvenience to the public to complete this repaving," said the FNM in a statement.

"All through the five-year term of the PLP administration, little attention was paid to the deteriorating condition of roads in New Providence, including roads in the City of Nassau and the Family Islands.

"Now, in spite of the economic crisis, the FNM government is pressing ahead with new road-building as well as repaving of existing roads such as the long-neglected Shirley Street," it said.

The FNM said the Shirley Street project is only a portion of the "massive" repaving of city roads being carried out by government.

Already paved are: West Bay Street from Blake Road to Navy Lion Road (except

those portions where utility works are continuing), Bay Street from Fox Hill Road to Yamacraw, and Fox Road to the roundabout.

"In the new year, repaving will be carried out on Shirley Street from Mackey Street to Village Road, Bay Street from Navy Lion Road to Mackey Street, and Woods Rogers Wharf. In short all of the city's streets, including side streets, will be repaved in this term of the FNM government," the statement said.

Meanwhile road works are being carried out or will soon begin in Abaco, Eleuthera, Harbour Island, Current Island, Acklins and Ragged Island – all to be completed within the political term ending in 2012, according to the FNM.

The statement continued: "We are witnessing what will amount to an extraordinary achievement by the government."

"With more building and development in the city it is inevitable that there will be some digging up of roads to lay utility lines, but Bahamians will be glad that the ministry and the utility corporations very sensibly carried out major refurbishing of their lines to minimise this in the future."

"It is hoped that the motoring public will not be tempted to abuse the newly-paved road by speeding."

## Search for men who robbed service station

POLICE are searching for three men who robbed a Shell Service Station on Saturday night.

Some time around 9.50pm, police received notification of an armed robbery at Shell Service Station on the corner of Kemp Road and Parkgate Road.

Officers responded to the scene and were informed that three dark men, all dressed in dark clothing and armed with handguns, had rushed into the establishment demanding cash.

They took an undetermined amount of cash and fled the area headed east on Parkgate Road in a black Nissan Maxima.

• THE search of an abandoned house by police led to the discovery of a firearm, ammunition and a small quantity of marijuana.

The find occurred at around 11.30am on Sunday, when officers from the mobile division were on patrol in the Malcolm Road area and decided to search the house in question.

They found: a black 9mm pistol, six live rounds of ammunition and a small plastic bag containing marijuana.

## LOCAL NEWS

# Police initiative will tackle illegal weapons

By PAUL G TURNQUEST  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
pturnquest@tribunemedia.net

THE Royal Bahamas Police Force will be introducing a new initiative to tackle the tide of illegal weapons flooding the streets of New Providence, Minister of National Security Tommy Turnquest revealed yesterday.

Noting that a greater emphasis on gun control is

the key to fighting crime, Mr Turnquest said a number of new techniques will be employed, including, but not be limited to, an increase in vehicle stop-and-search exercises, a greater police presence on the streets, more patrols, and the enhancement of police intelligence operations.

The minister declined to provide further details of the strategy, for fear of tipping off would-be criminals.

Mr Turnquest said that the police are working to ensure that traffic cases are dealt with more expeditiously than in the past.

He said the force has hired 25 employees to update the warrants database in an effort to get rid of the backlog of traffic cases crippling the system.

The minister spoke about other possible changes to policing policy, including a reduction in the penalties

attached to certain traffic infractions.

He said: "We have a fixed penalty system, where if you are stopped for running a red light or for a traffic infraction, you get a ticket right there and all you have to do is pay and avoid going to court."

"There are two things we have to look at: There is a school of thought that the penalties are too high and so as a result of them being too high persons take the option of going through the system with the hope that their case gets lost or delayed in such a way that by the time it comes up, the witnesses are no longer coming to court."

"And so that is something we obviously have to look at and assess if there is any measure to that school of thought."

"The opposing school of thought is that if we reduce the penalties too low, persons would feel as if it isn't a big deal and then keep doing it. So there has to be a balance," Mr Turnquest said.

## TOURIST BUS COLLIDES WITH LIMOUSINE



THE SCENE of the collision on Bay Street yesterday.

TOURISTS were jolted by a nasty shock when their hotel transfer bus collided with a limousine in downtown Nassau yesterday afternoon.

The back end of the Dan Knowles tour bus, number 145, smacked the rear of the dark green limousine tour car, number 145, just east of the straw market on Bay Street some time after 2pm yesterday.

PHOTO: RODNEY MONCUR

## Tribune readers: too much leniency shown to tourists

TRIBUNE READERS feel the police show too much leniency to tourists who break the law – and say being a foreigner is a “get out of jail free” card in the Bahamas.

In the latest tribune242.com poll, more than 80 per cent of voters said visitors who commit crimes get off too easily.

*Joe Blow* noted that if a Bahamian is even suspected of being involved in a crime in the US, he or she will feel the full brunt of the law.

“What sort of message does this send to young Bahamians? Once again, if ya foreign, ya better than us,” he said.

Rashad Amahad said: “We are so very hospitable, they

could come here and do anything; and this goes for every facet of our community – banking, insurance, hotel.

“Could it be that we need to start thinking that ‘we the people’ really matter? Where is our pride? The mindset has to change, we need to look out for our commonwealth and the future of our children. Some of us think that only the foreigners know how to do it.”

According to *Bethshevaw*, “That’s why some of them come here – funny deaths, buying drugs, doing whatever they want, because tourism is our number one industry.”

The reader added that skin colour and social status are also determining factors – as can be seen in the way Haitians suspected of breaking the law are treated.

*Common Sense* said the police need a public relations officer who can explain the nature of investigations involving tourists before the suspects have a chance to “cry their sour story to every international agency.”

Sigmund Willis agreed, saying the involvement of international human rights organisations is the reason our police force and judicial system “do not work.”

He said: “Deal with each crime in a timely manner and we will reduce the amount of persons who want to take part in

these activities. It looks as though crime pays – you commit a crime, and the rights of the victim go out the window and the rights of the criminal come in.”

One reader maintained that although there is an obvious pro-visitor bias in law enforcement, Bahamians should not become distracted by this, and should instead focus on “the crime that is really killing our nation – Bahamian-on-Bahamian crime.”

“If we figure out that,” *Erasmus Folly* said, “then we can solve tourist-on-Bahamian and Bahamian-on-tourist and everything else much more easily. Our problem is us, not them.”

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## Annual Advent Mission

ST ANSELM PARISH on Bernard Road, Fox Hill, will hold its annual parish Advent Mission from Monday, December 14, to Wednesday, December 16, beginning at 7 o'clock each night.

The service of reconciliation will take place on Wednesday.

The theme for this year's mission is "Prepare the way of the Lord."

Fr Don Chambers of the Archdiocese of Kingston, Jamaica, will conduct the mission.

All are invited to attend.

could come here and do anything; and this goes for every facet of our community – banking, insurance, hotel.

“Could it be that we need to start thinking that ‘we the people’ really matter? Where is our pride? The mindset has to change, we need to look out for our commonwealth and the future of our children. Some of us think that only the foreigners know how to do it.”

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## EDITORIAL/LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**The Tribune Limited**

*NULLIUS ADDICTUS JURARE IN VERBA MAGISTRI  
Being Bound to Swear to The Dogmas of No Master*

*LEON E. H. DUPUCH, Publisher/Editor 1903-1914*

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(Hon.) LL.D., D.Litt.*

*Publisher/Editor 1919-1972  
Contributing Editor 1972-1991*

*EILEEN DUPUCH CARRON, C.M.G., M.S., B.A., LL.B.  
Publisher/Editor 1972-*

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WEBSITE

[www.tribune242.com](http://www.tribune242.com) - updated daily at 2pm

**Praised for repaving Shirley Street**

GOVERNMENT has given Works Minister Neko Grant, his ministry's staff and contractors an extra pat on the back for having completed the repaving of Shirley Street in so short a time.

Tribune staff, who have had to daily travel this pot-holed road for so long, are also grateful for the smooth ride they will enjoy on their way to the office. They are now looking forward to the completion of this road further east, the repaving of the side roads and the repaving of Bay Street.

Of course, this is only a small portion of the \$130 million to be spent on relaunching New Providence's road programme, one of the many programmes providing jobs and assisting Bahamians in weathering the current jobless economy.

This does not include the millions being spent in Grand Bahama, Abaco, Eleuthera and other Family Islands where roads are also being refurbished, docks and boat ramps built, and many other public works undertaken, which will not only provide employment, but also improve the deteriorating infrastructure in many of the islands.

Although the Ingraham government is being criticised in some quarters for not doing enough to stimulate the economy, it appears that it is doing as much as it can considering the prudent limitations that must be put on the Treasury to avoid bankruptcy.

At the beginning of the year the Prime Minister announced that his government would introduce a stimulus packet that would assist in softening the impact of the tightening money market without endangering the country's national economic welfare and passing on an unsustainable debt burden to future generations.

For the first time in the Bahamas' history a benefit programme was launched to assist jobless Bahamians. While advising Bahamians to tighten their belts, to live within their means, and "not hang their hats higher than they can reach," his government outlined programmes to assist them.

By July of this year the National Insurance Board had paid out about \$9.1 million under the unemployment benefit scheme — an average of about \$1.1 million a week.

At that time the Board had approved 8,785 claims. The benefit provides a maximum of \$200 a week for a maximum period of 13 weeks.

So far an average of \$130 a week has been paid out of the fund to each recipient. By July half of the \$20 million ear-

marked for this programme had already been spent.

Unfortunately, no programme is free of fraudsters. In July, National Insurance Board Chairman Algernon Cargill said that since the programme's launch about 50 people had tried to defraud it by collecting unemployment benefits by false pretences. After investigations these persons were turned over to the police. Apparently many of the applicants were unemployed when they applied for the benefit, but continued to collect the benefit after they had found employment. However, there were others who had jobs, but still applied for the benefit.

In the House of Assembly in September Mr Ingraham instructed BEC to reconnect all residents whose electricity was cut off because they could not pay their electricity bills in full. He said that about 5,000 Bahamians had had their supply disconnected even though their outstanding bills were less than \$1,000.

The scholarship funding at the College of the Bahamas was increased by \$1 million for Bahamian children who could not afford tuition. Government scholarship funding was increased from \$400,000 to \$6 million.

A \$4.1 million budget was provided for each MP to spend \$100,000 to create projects in each of their constituencies to provide employment. The MPs are yet to report as to how this money has been spent, or how it is planned to be spent and how many have benefitted from it.

Government has also reacted to the movement of students from private to public schools because many parents can no longer afford to pay the private tuition. It was announced last week that government will soon hire 45 new teachers to cope with extra classes as children are transferred to government schools by struggling parents.

These are only a few of the social assistance programmes that government has undertaken to alleviate the sudden change in the average Bahamian's way of life. And so it is unfair for the Opposition to accuse Government of doing nothing. We are satisfied that if today's Opposition were the government it could not have done better. In fact we have grave doubts that it would have done as well.

We agree with what Prime Minister Ingraham said a year ago: "What is clear is that we are in uncharted waters. There is no quick answer to this crisis, and not even the most knowledgeable and gifted financial analysts are willing to gamble on its eventual outcome."



The Bahamas Conference of the Methodist Church

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**EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION SESSION FOR TEACHERS**

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- Strong academic and sports programmes

**An open letter to the Minister of National Security****LETTERS**

[letters@tribunemedia.net](mailto:letters@tribunemedia.net)

the whole cabinet should resign!

I also noted your comments that government is working to fix the ailing legal system and upgrade the courts beyond the capacity of only two jury trials at a time. While it appears the government is going to expand the capacity with the creation of new courts, isn't there property all over town that could have been rented to increase the capacity by now, in light of this grave situation? Couldn't the government have amended the necessary legislation to prevent all these criminals from roaming the streets on bail? Do we need a referendum? As it stands now,

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## LOCAL NEWS

FROM A GRAND BAHAMA CHILDREN'S HOME TO THE  
BRITISH ROYAL NAVY ... DAVONNE BETHEL'S EVENTFUL JOURNEY

# Bahamian graduates from navy training school



REASON TO SMILE: Bahamian Davonne Bethel

Cornwall, England — Davonne Bethel of Freeport has graduated with full honours from the Royal British Navy's lead military training school, HMS Raleigh.

Mr Bethel, now 23, was raised in a Grand Bahama children's home for a period of time before joining the family of Richard and Patricia Hobbs. Mr and Mrs Hobbs, residents of the Bahamas since 1990, said: "Davonne has always had a sense of structure in his life, from the respected reinforcement of the children's home, to the supporting strength of our entire family, and now with the ongoing discipline of the Royal Navy."

The family attended the induction ceremonies and were proud to note that "Davonne was elected as head of the unit by his commanding officers and fellow recruits. He was also given the Ganges Award as leader of the class that excelled in all phases of training."

Mr Bethel originally joined the Royal Marines a year ago but injured his back in training. Rather than quitting, he underwent extensive rehabilitation in England and re-entered basic training two months ago in the



FULL HONOURS:  
Davonne Bethel

Fisgard Division of the Royal Navy.

"Joining the Royal Navy is a big step," according to Warrant Officer First Class, Alphie Hines, Mr Bethel's senior training officer.

"Naturally, you will feel nervous as the time approaches and your head will be full of questions about what your new life will mean to you, and how you will cope with the changes."

Mr Bethel confirmed the demands placed upon each recruit during the transition. "Despite the initial strangeness, I adapted quickly and really enjoyed the experience, the camaraderie, and the unique challenges ... the Navy gives you as much support as they can to help you reach your goal,

the rest is left up to you."

HMS Raleigh is the Royal Navy's premier training establishment located at the South East corner of Cornwall on the outskirts of the town of Torpoint, in an area known for its outstanding natural beauty. "This is where all recruits joining the service receive the critical first phase of their Naval training," added Warrant Officer Hines.

"The nine week phase one training course is designed to be challenging, exciting, maritime in its focus, and relevant to the operational environment individuals will find themselves in. It aims to develop individuals as part of a team, inculcate naval ethos and a sense of being part of the naval family." HMS Raleigh also provides professional courses in military training, seamanship, logistics and submarine operations as well as vital training for ships' team preparing for operational deployments. Raleigh is also

home to the band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines Plymouth.

According to Mr Bethel, "typically, 10 per cent of recruits do not pass the first phase of training. It is rigorous, demanding, and simply not for everyone."

Asked what division of the Royal Navy he intends to pursue, Mr Bethel responded: "I've applied to become an Officer's Steward, which will allow me to best focus on my education for the next five years, which the Navy pays for while serving wherever posted worldwide. Following that, a career as a medic really appeals to me."

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## House of Assembly suspended, sitting adjourned

The House of Assembly was suspended yesterday and further steps towards the passing of three pieces of legislation postponed after details of proposed amendments to one of those Bills were not delivered to the opposition PLP for review until just over a day before debate was scheduled to take place.

Parliament had been scheduled to further debate the Town Planning and Subdivision Act, the Arbitration Act and the Foreign Arbitral Awards Act yesterday.

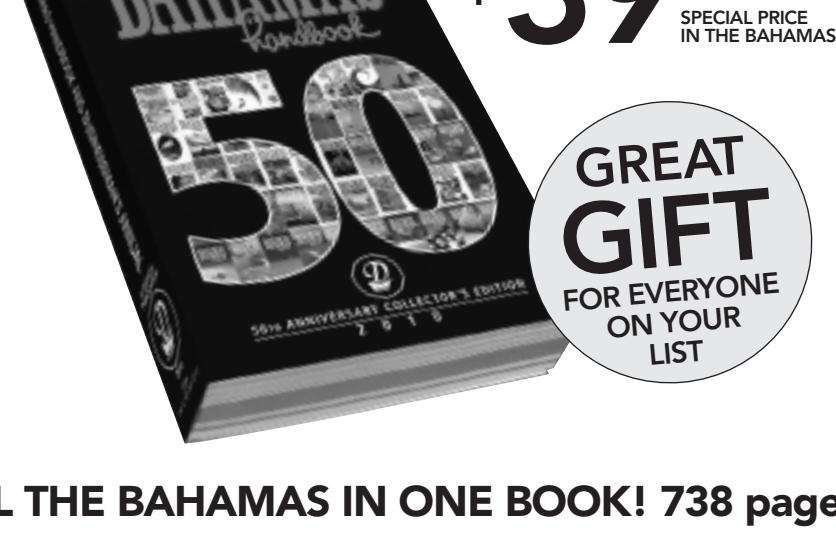
### Consultation

However, the sitting was suspended and adjourned to Thursday morning following consultation between leader of government business in the house, Minister of National Security Tommy Turnquest, and his counterpart in the PLP, Obie Wilchcombe. The House of Assembly will meet again on Thursday, December 10.

Parliamentarians are then expected to take their Christmas break, before returning on January 20, 2010.

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## PUBLIC NOTICE

On January 1, 2009, Focol Holdings Limited (FOCOL) acquired a 60% interest in BTCL Tankers Limited, a marine transport company. In common with many shipping entities, the accounting records of BTCL Tankers Limited are maintained by a ship management company. Hence, additional audit procedures were required in order to gain assurance on the balances to be consolidated into the financial statements of Focol Holdings Limited. The existence of the 40% non-controlling interest in BTCL Tankers Limited required significant changes to the consolidation procedures, as well as to the format of FOCOL's financial statements to account for this minority interest.

In light of the aforementioned, Focol Holdings Limited has experienced some delays in completing our audited financial statements for fiscal year 2009. Focol requested and Bahamas International Securities Exchange (BISX) has granted Focol Holdings Limited an extension to file and publish Focol's audited financial statement for fiscal year 2009.

Focol's audited financial statements for fiscal year 2009 will be available for filing and publishing by December 18, 2009.



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By ALISON LOWE  
 Tribune Staff Reporter  
[alowe@tribunemedia.net](mailto:alowe@tribunemedia.net)

A TAXI driver who left the scene of a Cable Beach traffic accident that killed a young Bahamian athlete on Saturday has not been located, police said yesterday.

Christopher Bethel, 25, a member of the Bahamas national hurdling team, was pronounced dead shortly after the car he was travelling in on West Bay Street lost control and hit a tree.

According to police, Mr Bethel and Bahamian Olympian sprinter Adrian Griffith were travelling east on West Bay Street in the early hours of the morning when a bus-type, grey coloured taxi reversed down the ramp leading to the Breezes resort and into the main street.

Mr Griffith, the driver of the car, told police he avoided the taxi but in doing so, lost control and crashed into a tree. He suffered minor hand and knee injuries.

The taxi, licence plate number 1040, was then reported to have driven off,

according to an eyewitness who was driving behind the two athletes.

Police sergeant Chrislyn Skippings said: "The taxi driver has not been located and he has not turned himself in. We are still hoping to speak with him."

Sgt Skippings added that it is too early for police to determine if alcohol or speed were factors in the fatal crash.

She appealed for anyone with information as to the

**ATHLETE CHRISTOPHER BETHEL** (left) was killed in the crash in the early hours of Saturday morning (above).

taxis driver's whereabouts or that of the vehicle involved to contact police at 919 or 328-TIPS.

Prior to his death, Christopher, a 2003 graduate of St Augustine's College and a 2008 graduate of Illinois-based McKendree University, was in the process of readying himself for the 2010 track season when he hoped to qualify for the Bahamas' Commonwealth Games team.

## Police 'still investigating' allegations of teacher's relationship with pupil

By DENISE MAYCOCK  
 Tribune Freeport Reporter  
[dmaycock@tribunemedia.net](mailto:dmaycock@tribunemedia.net)

**FREEPORT** - Senior Assistant Commissioner of Police Marvin Dames

said police are still investigating allegations of a male teacher having a sexual relationship with a student who is a minor.

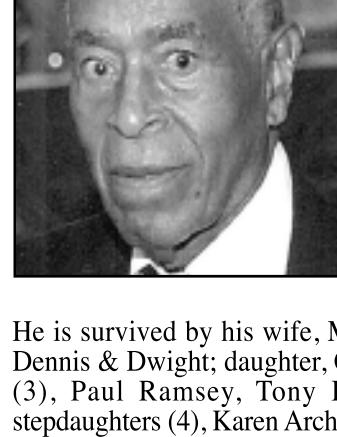
Mr Dames also defended the police force in

## KEMP'S FUNERAL HOME LIMITED

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 Nassau, N.P., The Bahamas

### A Funeral Service for

Mr. George Theodore Kerr, 90



of Warren Street, Oakes Field, Nassau, The Bahamas, will be held at St. Mary's Anglican Church, Virginia Street, Nassau, on Wednesday, 9th December, 2009 at 10:30a.m. Father Harry W. Ward and Canon Samuel Sturup will officiate and interment will be in St. Mary's Cemetery, Virginia Street, Nassau.

He is survived by his wife, Marsil Kerr; sons, George, Dennis & Dwight; daughter, Carolyn Azikiwe; stepsons (3), Paul Ramsey, Tony Brown, Carlo Jackman; stepdaughters (4), Karen Archer, Wendy Burrows, Ericka Jackman-Oliver, Donica Jackman; grandsons (10), Adlai, Vaughn, Kyle, Jason, Nnaemeka, Montez, Mandella, Madio &, Maja Kerr, Amechi Azikiwe; granddaughters (7), Ndidiama, O'layka, Moesha & Mandessa Kerr, Nneka & Indidi Azikiwe; uncle, Neville Albury; daughters-in-law, Beverley and Michelle Kerr; other relatives & friends, Roosevelt Sweeting, Rick Rolle, Esau Roker, Father Harry Ward, Cannon Samuel Sturup, Father Shazz Turnquest, Wellington Forbes, Audrey Fountain, Princess Butler, Larry Simms, Eleanor "Sugar" McQuay, Ella "Tempy" Adderley, Sister Cecilia Albury, Dr. Philip Rahming, Dr. Herbert Orlander, Dr. Michael Ingraham, Natasha Newry, Valentino Griffin-Sweeting, Alison Bethel (Freeport), Cherian Williams, Nurse Geneva Thornton & family, Joyce Bain & family, William McCartney & family, Meta Bethel & family, Willie Belton & family, Lionel Symonette & family, Neville Bethel & family, Dudley Seifert & family, Hazel Roberts & family, Holy Spirit Church family, Staff of B.E.C, Private Medical Ward staff of PMH.

Instead of flowers the family request that donations be sent to Holy Spirit Anglican Church Organ Fund, P.O. Box N. 8753, Nassau in memory of Mr. George T. Kerr.

Relatives and friends may pay their respects at Kemp's Funeral Home Limited, 22 Palmdale Avenue, Palmdale, (TODAY) 8th December, 2009 from 4:00p.m. to 6:00p.m. and at the church on Wednesday from 9:30a.m. until service time.

response to claims that certain officers are "dragging their feet" with regard to the matter – perhaps intentionally.

He noted that such suggestions insult the integrity of the organisation.

"We will carry out our investigations and at the end of the day if it is proven that someone is responsible then they will account," he said.

The aunt of the female student who was allegedly involved with the teacher criticised the police after learning that the suspect may have fled the country with his family.

She claims the police were notified about the matter and given evidence in October.

The aunt also said she believes information about the investigation was leaked by officers, prompting the suspect to flee.

She pointed out that the teacher was also a reserve police officer.

## Courts

In response, Mr Dames noted that career police officers are placed before the courts every year.

"Why would we take sides for any police officer?"

"If you are a police officer and you commit a criminal act then you suffer the consequences," he said.

ACP Dames said however that the police will not investigate the matter in the press.

"An investigation of this nature is a very intricate matter. This matter allegedly happened in 2007, this is 2009 and it has just come to the attention of the police," he added.

Another Grand Bahama teacher, Andre Birbal, fled the country in February after police investigations were launched into complaints that he molested two male students at the Eight Mile Rock High School.

Birbal was apprehended in May by US authorities in New York.

He is presently awaiting extradition to the Bahamas.

## LOCAL NEWS

# Turnquest 'has great confidence' in appointments

**FROM page one**

bring some real management and leadership to the police force.

"So when you look at the force come January, the new command structure will have a cadre of well trained energetic police officers who are able to get the job done. I have immense confidence in Mr Greenslade and Mr Dame's ability as I do with a number of other senior police officers.

"They are technologically savvy, they write well, they speak well, and they understand policing on the ground. And so when you look at their training, Mr Greenslade joined the police force in 1979, and Mr Dames joined in 1988. Mr Greenslade is 48, Mr Dames is 45. And so both of them have a wonderful opportunity to truly make an impact in the Bahamas," he said.

Turning to the outgoing Commissioner of Police Reginald Ferguson, Mr Turn-

quest lauded him for his performance and took grave exception to the attacks launched against him by PLP chairman Bradley Roberts.

"They were most unfortunate," Mr Turnquest said. "He had no problem congratulating Mr Greenslade. He deserves that. He has worked hard since 1979. He has done the rounds so to speak, you know he use to be a traffic cop, he has been at Central Police station, he has commanded Grand Bahama, he's done a stint at SIB, he's been down to CDU, and had an opportunity on the top team. And so that's fine.

"But I thought that the parting shots to Reginald Ferguson was most unfortunate. So I thought why would he (Mr Roberts) make such an unnecessary comment like that, and the only conclusion I could draw was Mr Ferguson's involve-



ELLISTON GREENSLADE

ment in (some allegations against Mr Roberts which were later dropped)."

Mr Turnquest said that Mr Ferguson also allowed the police force an opportunity to heal and settle after its massive promotion exercise just prior to the 2007 general election.

"So I thought that the Prime Minister's decision to wait until now was the right decision.

"It was not politically motivated.

"It was taking all into consideration at that time to do so. So I found Bradley's comments most unfortunate," he said.

Mr Greenslade and Mr Dames will be substantively promoted to Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner respectively on January 4, 2010. It is at this time that the current Commissioner, Reginald Ferguson, who has gone on pre-retirement leave, will officially demit office.

## Minister

related.

With these figures in mind, Mr Turnquest said that in most cases it is very difficult for the police to have avoided them.

"The police are not in persons' bedrooms. A few of them (murders) have been from love triangles. A fella would say 'man you bring your baby daddy for me.' So how do you stop that?" he asked.

The key to making an impact on this plague, he said, is to have reasonable policies and programmes in place to deal with it.

"The police have been trying to institute crime watch groups for example you look at some of the divisions in New Providence or Grand Bahama who have effective crime watch groups working in partnership with the police. You tend to find that those areas have less robberies and housebreakings.

"And so you find in those cases where businesses take reasonable security initiatives we find that they are

less susceptible to being robbed or other crimes. And I'm sure you would have seen the fellow with the crowbar trying to pry open the (cell phone) business — he was caught last week," he said.

Mr Turnquest added, however, that he gets far too many complaints from the public of officers not being responsive enough to the needs of the people.

"The mandate on the senior officers in the force are that they have to be more proactive in managing. Someone calls the police station and the response is surly, or rude, or slothful. There has to be greater empathy or greater response to members of the public.

"The other aspect of which I get far too many complaints is that someone would report something to police and then they don't hear back from the police at all. And so the confidence level falls. And so we want to ensure that the police follow

up with the victims because sometimes you would find that the police have been successful in a case and the victim doesn't know.

"So again we want to ensure that this doesn't happen. But the one thing I do want to emphasize is that these are a minority of cases. I am satisfied that the vast majority of police officers

are hard working officers. But there are a number who continue to not do all they should do, or be where they should be," he said.

Mr Turnquest said he also expects over the course of this Christmas season that there will be an increased police presence at the senior level in "hot spots" or the downtown area.

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<b>PEARLS</b>	<b>SKU#</b>	<b>WAS</b>	<b>NOW</b>	Bangle Steel With Cross & 18kt	258398	\$100	\$40
Earring Two Pair set	220275	\$30	\$13	Bangle Steel Rubber & 18Kt	233506	\$100	\$40
Earrings	230972	\$150	\$60	Pendant Dog Tag	244573	\$140	\$57
Earrings Stud	230971	\$100	\$40	Ring with Gold Screws	258401	\$100	\$40
Bracelet Double Strand	231978	\$60	\$27	<b>WATCHES — ALL AT 10% - 50% OFF</b>			
Necklace & bracelet set	244739	\$150	\$61	Men's Citizen Eco Drive	40719	\$135	\$81
17" MOP Necklace	236385	\$200	\$81	Ladies Citizen Eco Drive	40720	\$135	\$81
Two Stand Nk & Brac Set	259255	\$200	\$81	Men's Citizen	31022	\$150	\$90
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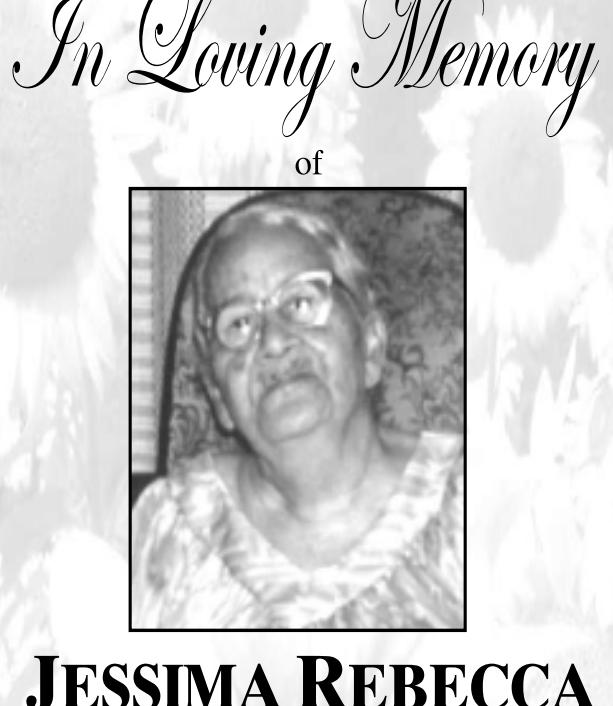
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**Happy 100th Birthday Mom**

Even though you're not here, we will continue to celebrate your gracious time spent with us.

# sports

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2009

PAGE 10 • International sports news



Dolphins  
rally past  
Patriots  
22-21...

See page 10

## FUN AND GAMES AT THE KNOWLES INVITATIONAL



**MARK KNOWLES** and Anna-Lena Groenfeld (backs towards camera) congratulate Olga Savchuk and Martin Damm.



**BAHAMIAN** Davis Cupper Marvin Rolle (left), Mark Knowles and German Anna-Lena Groenfeld share a joke as they wait to play on Saturday at the National Tennis Center.

Tennis pros, sponsors and good weather combined to make a success of Mark Knowles' annual Celebrity Tennis Invitational on Saturday at the National Tennis Center.

The event got started with Knowles and Anna-Lena Groenfeld holding off Damm and Ukraine's Olga Savchuk in mixed doubles play. In between two those matches, the combination of Germany's Benjamin Becker and Bahamian Davis Cupper Marvin Rolle won the singles over American Robert Kendrick and Damm.

Knowles played with Martin Damm to pull off a 5-2 win over Americans Dan Johnson and Jared Palmer.

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

### VOLLEYBALL NPVA ACTION

THE New Providence Volleyball Association continued its regular season action on Sunday at the D W Davis Gymnasium with the following results posted:

In the first game, it took the Johnson's Lady Truckers three sets to put away the College of the Bahamas Lady Caribs.

The second match saw the Champions Club defeating the Saints in four sets 25-21, 25-6, 21-25 and 25-23. Caanon Ferguson secured 13 points in the win. Gabi Laurent finished with nine for the Saints.

In the final match, the National Fence Intruders won over DaBasement 25-14, 23-25, 25-14 and 25-13.

Prince Wilson scored a game high 22 points for the Intruders.

Lahaundro Thompson secured 11 points in a losing effort.

## CRUSHERS BOUNCE BACK FROM DISAPPOINTMENT WITH 51-9 VICTORY

# St. Bede's rout Giants

By BRENT STUBBS  
Senior Sports Reporter  
bstubbs@tribunemedia.net

**A**FTER suffering their first defeat for the season in a close encounter against St. Cecilia's Strikers last week, the defending champions St. Bede's Crushers took their frustration out on the hapless Xavier's Giants.

Yesterday, St. Bede's travelled to Xavier's where they crushed the Giants 51-9 to improve to 8-1 with one more game left in the Catholic Diocesan Primary Schools basketball regular season.

"We played good defence and after the first quarter, we played very good basketball," said forward Malik Jones, just before they headed off to the Kendal Isaacs Gymnasium to participate in the 25th Father Marcian Peters

Invitational Basketball Tournament.

Jones, who contributed 12 points in the win, said they went back to the drawing board after losing by one to St. Cecilia's and they are more committed to defending their title.

Point guard Kyle 'Flash' Turnquest lid up the nets for a game high 22 points. He too was convinced that the Crushers are going to get back to the brand of basketball that has helped them to be labeled as the best team in private primary school basketball last year.

"It was a good win for us today," he said. "We came here and played like we are capable of doing. We missed a few layups, but our defense was superb."

Turnquest said they intend to keep up their intensity as they play their final regular season

SEE page nine



**KYLE 'FLASH' TURNQUEST** grabs a rebound for the St. Bede's Crushers against the Xavier's Giants in their 51-9 rout yesterday.

## FATHER MARCIAN PETERS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

# Rattlers pull off double victory

By RENALDO DORSETT  
Sports Reporter  
rdorsett@tribunemedia.net

With the 25th edition of the Father Marcian Peters Basketball tournament in full swing, competition in the intermediate division is beginning to intensify with a top contender pulling off two wins on day four.

The C.I Gibson Rattlers pulled off a pair of wins in contrasting fashion yesterday at the Kendal Isaacs gym as they continued on what they hope is a trek to toward championship contention.

In the opening game of the afternoon, the Rattlers struggled woefully on the offensive end but came away with a 15-5 win over the C.W. Saunders Cougars and a thrilling 33-31 come from behind win over the Zion Christian Eagles.

Without lead guard Alcott Fox for much of the contest against C.W. Saunders, the Rattlers struggled in the half court offensive set, but survived with stifling interior defense against the poor shooting Cougars.

Rhemar Lewis was the only member of the Cougars to reach the scoreboard, as he accounted for the team's five points and also finished with six steals and three assists.

## Size

Without much output from the guard position without Fox, the Rattlers relied on their size advantage on both ends of the floor to key the victory.

Avens Valcin finished with eight points and five rebounds, while Renaldo Archer added four points, six rebounds two steals and two blocks.

The Rattlers returned to the court after a one game layoff and which contributed to a slow start against the Eagles.

Zion Christian took an early 7-0 lead in the opening quarter and led 14-6 after the first quarter.

Joseph Roberts carved up the Rattler defense early with six points and two assists in the first quarter alone.

SEE page nine

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## SPORTS

**DECEMBER 27: SANDALS ROYAL BAHAMIAN HOTEL**

# Preparations under way for BAAA awards banquet

By BRENT STUBBS  
Senior Sports Reporter  
bstubbs@tribunemedia.net

NOW that the elections are over, Mike Sands said he and his executive team are committed to making the manifesto that they campaigned on a vibrant component in the way forward.

Sands, re-elected as president of one of the most prolific sporting bodies in the country after he was ousted by a vote of no confidence a year ago, said the main goal right now is the preparation of the annual awards banquet.

"Unfortunately, no ground work was done by the previous administration and we've committed that despite the short time before us, we intend to still put it on," Sands said.

The banquet is scheduled for Friday, December 27 at Sandals Royal Bahamian Hotel when the BAAA will honour the most outstanding male and female athletes, coaches and officials.

"The event will have a different format, but we feel it's still our obligation to show our appreciation to the athletes with the banquet, which we started," Sands said. "So we intend to continue with it."

Sands has indicated that the BAAA intend to select a core of sports media to once again nominate and choose the recipients for the award so as to make sure that their officers remain impartial to the voting process.

Additionally, Sands said they had a very productive meeting on Friday with the local coaches. There were more than 20 of them in attendance as they started to chart the course for the 2010 season.



**OUTGOING PRESIDENT** Curt Hollingsworth gets set to shake hands with the new president Mike Sands following the BAAA election recently. Looking on is former Olympics sprinter Iram Lewis. Seated left is defeated second-vice president Anita Doherty, from Grand Bahama.

"It was a very good meeting," Sands said. "It was very, very interactive. We talked about some things and we got some feed back from them. It was more wanting to hear what they wanted to see happen as we move forward."

At the meeting, Sands said they selected a standards committee inclusive of statistician Bernard Newbold, coaches David Charlton and David Jennings from Grand Bahama as well as technical director Frank 'Pancho' Raming to

"This will review all of the standards for our national teams and national meets where qualifying standards are necessary," Sands pointed out. "We don't really want to make it stringent, but we want to make sure that it is attainable for the athletes."

Sands said the BAA have also spoken with Dr. Cyriann Strachan, one of their 12 directors, in respect to putting together a medical committee that will ensure that the athletes are kept up to breast

with all of the medical aspects of the sport.

And he noted that they are also looking at the possibility of having insurance coverage for all of the athletes, both locally and internationally.

"There are a number of proposals that we are working on simultaneously," Sands said. "I'm sure that by the general meeting on December 18, we will be able to give the body an indication of the progress we have made so far."

But as we move on, Sands said each member of the BAAA will be able to judge and grade his executive team by the manifesto that they have presented in their campaign.

While the awards banquet will close out the 2009 season, the BAAA intend to kick off the 2010 season with the Odd Distance Track and Field Meet at the Thomas A. Robinson Track and Field Stadium on Saturday, January 9.

The following day on Sun-

day, January 10, they will be attending their year-opening Church Service. The Church, however, has not yet been confirmed.

The first full fledged meet will be the T-Bird Flyers Track Classic on Saturday, January 16.

Over the weekend of February 12-13, the first meet outside of New Providence will take place on the new surfaced Carl Oliver Track Stadium in Nicholls Town, Andros.

The first major international meet will be the IAAF World Indoor Championships that will take place in Doha, Qatar from March 12-14.

The Carifta Games will follow over the weekend of April 3-5 in the Cayman Islands.

Three major meets will take place at the TAR Stadium in June. They are the Age Group Nationals from June 4-5, the Junior Nationals, June 11-12 and the Open Nationals, June 25-26.

Three major international meets will take place in July. They are the Junior Central American and Caribbean Championships in Santo Domingo from July 2-4; the Sr. CAC Games in Ponce, Puerto Rico from June 14-29 and the World Junior Championships in Moncton from July 20-25.

The World Youth Olympics will take place in Singapore, China from August 14-28, the World Cup is in Split, Croatia from September 4-5 and the World Athletics Finals is in Rabat, Morocco from September 11-12. The highlight for the year, however, will be the Commonwealth Games that will be held in Delhi, India from October 6-12.

# Rattlers pull off double triumph

**FROM page eight**

A layup by Nashad Mackey gave the Eagles a 22-11 lead with 3:43 left to play in the half before Fox led the Rattlers on a run.

His layup sparked a 9-2 run for the Rattlers, capped by a pair of free throws from Valcin which brought the Rattlers within striking distance at the half, 24-20.

After a terrible shooting third quarter for both teams, the fourth went right down to the game's final possession before it was decided.

Leading 24-23, Roberts scored a pair of baskets on a top of the key jumper and a drive to the lane which gave the Eagles a 28-23 lead and breathing room with just over two minutes remaining.

## Fouled

The Eagles maintained a 31-29 lead with 40 seconds remaining when Valcin was fouled and sent to the line with an opportunity to tie.

Valcin missed both free throws, but the Rattlers were afforded another scoring opportunity when Phillip Hanna missed a pair for the Eagles at the opposite end.

Fox scored the game tying bucket with 8 seconds remaining and a relentless Rattlers full court press came up with an inbounds steal almost automatically and Teashaean Gibson scored on a layup to give C.I. Gibson their first lead of the game and the win.

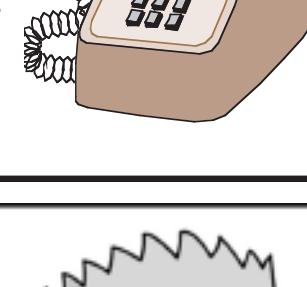
Fox finished with a game high 21 points to go along with four rebounds and three assists.

Roberts led the Eagles with 11 points while Shakeil Hepburn added seven points and five rebounds.

## Share your news

The Tribune wants to hear from people who are making news in their neighbourhoods. Perhaps you are raising funds for a good cause, campaigning for improvements in the area or have won an award.

If so, call us on 322-1986 and share your story.



**ADRIAN MACKEY** shoots a basket for St. Bede's Crushers over a Xavier's Giants' defender.

# St. Bede's Crushers rout Giants

**FROM page eight**

game on Wednesday at home against the St. Francis/Joseph Shockers.

The sudden death playoffs are set for Friday at Loyola Hall with the best-of-three championship scheduled to start on Monday. The way the Crushers bounced back yesterday, Turnquest said it will definitely be tough for anybody, including the Strikers to beat them again.

St. Bede's got off to a pretty good start, taking a commanding 10-0 lead behind Malik Jones' six points before Xavier's finally got on the scoreboard when Liam Francis grabbed an offensive rebound and got the put back just before the end of the period.

## Momentum

The Giants would carry their momentum over to the second quarter with Tajh Moss hitting a jumper for a 10-4 as the Crushers had difficulty getting a shot off, even though they had numerous opportunities to score on the fast break.

But when in trouble, coach Donnie Culmer and Ricardo Freemantle turned to their leader, Kyle Turnquest and he didn't disappoint them as he directed their show.

When he wasn't darting inside, canning 12 points in the period, he was dashing off a pass to either Lynden Gibson or Stevejay Whyly as the Crushers went on to hold the Giants score-

less, posting a 21-4 lead at the half.

Nothing changed in the third quarter as St. Bede's tightened up on their defense and with Gregory Cooper and Malik Jones going inside, they managed to surge to a 41-4 advantage at the end of the period.

Cooper and Jones both joined Turnquest in scoring six points apiece in the spurt and Christopher Oliver and Adrian Mackey helped in their defensive stance.

Although the game was already out of reach, St. Bede's continued to build on their margin, posting a 51-4 lead before Xavier's made one last run.

After Gervaise Elliott got an offensive rebound and put back for a 51-6 deficit, Tajh Moss added another basket for the Giants, who played against the Crushers' reserve players. Moss had a final chance before the buzzer to at least put Xavier's in double figures, but he hit the first of two free throws and missed the other as time expired.

That also brought an end to the Giants season that saw them finish at the bottom of the standings at 0-10. Despite their dismal showing, coach Nelson 'Mandella' Joseph was still pleased.

"The guys played hard. They improved each game, but we just couldn't get a win," he said. "But I must congratulate them for playing hard."

"Hopefully we will be able to see better results next year. But we have to give credit to St. Bede's. The first time I saw them when we scored about four or five points, I knew they were going to be good."



HAPPY BIRTHDAY STEVE

## SPORTS

## Dolphins rally past Patriots 22-21

By STEVEN WINE  
AP Sports Writer

MIAMI (AP) — With another lousy fourth quarter on the road, the New England Patriots let the Miami Dolphins back into the AFC East race.

Tom Brady threw two interceptions in the final 10 minutes, and the desperate Dolphins drove 51 yards for the winning field goal with 1:02 left to beat the Patriots 22-21 Sunday.

Division leader New England (7-5) lost after leading in the fourth quarter for the third time on the road, while Miami (6-6) overcame an early 14-point deficit in a must-win game.

"It puts us right back in the thick of things," Dolphins coach Tony Sparano said.

The Patriots still lead the Jets and Dolphins by one game. But they've lost consecutive games for the first time since November 2006.

"We're searching for the answers," Brady said. "When you lose, it's an awful feeling."

The Dolphins started the season 0-3, and to make the playoffs they likely still need a sweep of their final four games, starting Sunday at Jacksonville. But signs of life in the passing game were cause for encouragement: Chad Henne threw for a career-high 335 yards and two touchdowns.

"He's real poised," said Davone Bess, who made 10 catches for 117 yards. "Every time they throw us a fastball, he is willing to hit a home run."

Henne went 29 for 52 — the most passes thrown by the run-oriented Dolphins since 2006. He endorsed Sparano's surprising game plan.

"If he wants to, we can throw all day," Henne said. "I love it. Put it in my hands in pressure situations."

At crunch time, the Dolphins had the better quarterback. Leading 21-19 with 10 minutes left, the Patriots had first-and-goal at the 4, but Brady was intercepted in the end zone by rookie Vontae Davis, who stepped in front of Randy Moss.

"The guy made a good play," Brady said with a shrug.

New England subsequently forced Miami to punt twice, but each time Brady and the Patriots went three and out.

The Dolphins' winning drive started from their 26 with 3:44 to go. On fourth-and-6, Henne kept the march alive by hitting Greg Camarillo for 13 yards to the Patriots 28. Miami finished 12 for 22 on third and fourth down.

Brady couldn't match Henne's comeback. Channing Crowder made his first career interception, picking off Brady at the Patriots 40 with 35 seconds left.

As a result, New England

remained winless in five games

in opponents' stadiums

"If things don't go your way, you've got to fight back," Brady said. "At times we do, and at other times I don't think we fight very hard."

Brady went to the locker room early in the game for treatment of an arm injury, but he returned without missing a play. New England scored only once in the final 44 minutes, but Brady declined to blame his health, even though he came in with right shoulder and finger injuries.

"There are a lot of guys who are banged up," he said. "I don't think many guys are 100 percent. It's late in the year. It's a physical game. You've still got to go out and get the job done."

Brady finished 19 for 29 for 352 yards and two long touchdowns, but in the fourth quarter he went 3 for 9 for 41 yards. In the past nine games, Brady has thrown only one fourth-quarter touchdown pass.

Earlier, Brady appeared headed for one of the best games of his career. He threw touchdown passes of 58 yards to Moss and 81 yards to Sam Aiken. He also had a 58-yard completion to Wes Welker, who made 10 receptions for 167 yards.

They weren't enough.

"It's really frustrating," Welker said. "A lot of us need to look in the mirror, including myself."

# Lakers beat Suns 108-88 for 9th straight victory



KOBE BRYANT takes a shot over Phoenix Suns forward Amare Stoudemire (left) in the second half of Sunday's game in Los Angeles...

## Nadal closes '09 season with another title

By PAUL LOGOTHETIS  
BARCELONA, SPAIN

Rafael Nadal closed out his most challenging season with another title, ending a four-match losing streak by earning two points for Spain in the Davis Cup final, according to Associated Press.

Nadal opened the best-of-five series on indoor clay with a victory over Tomas Berdych. He then beat Jan Hajek 6-3, 6-4 Sunday at Palau Sant Jordi to help Spain close out its 5-0 win over the Czech Republic.

"To finish the second half of the season with this ending is very important and nice, especially after all of the problems I had over those two months," the Australian Open champion said about the knee injuries that sidelined him for the middle part of the year. "You have to be sure to enjoy these moments when they happen because you don't know when the next victory will come."

Nadal started the season as the world's top-ranked player, but is now No. 2 after his



RAFAEL NADAL (centre) with the rest of the Spanish team (l-r) Feliciano Lopez, David Ferrer, captain Albert Costa and Fernando Verdasco with the Davis Cup trophy in Barcelona, Spain. David Ferrer beat Jan Hajek to win the Davis Cup Final 5-0 against Czech Republic. Spain clinched its fourth title Saturday with the doubles victory...

(AP Photo: David Ramos)

wasn't much he could do about that.

"I don't think I've made any errors with my planning."

I'm playing the calendar I need to so that I get to the tournaments in good shape," said Nadal, who added that the only tournament he could consider dropping next year was in Madrid, but that he wouldn't.

"Could you imagine the reaction?" he said.

"It was a tournament that didn't help my knee. It was the only mistake on my calendar."

Nadal lost the Madrid final to Roger Federer and then was eliminated by Robin Soderling in the fourth round of the French Open, a tournament he had won the previous four years.

Although Nadal only reached one more tour final in 2009 — in Shanghai — a second Davis Cup win left him content.

"I feel great," said Nadal, who finished the season with a 66-14 record and \$5.5 million in winnings. "I don't have any problems."

grueling style of play appeared to catch up with his body this season. His last ATP Tour win came in Rome in May.

It was at the Madrid Masters that everything seemed to unravel, with a four-hour semifinal win over Novak Djokovic taking its toll on his

bothersome knees.

Nadal also had an abdominal injury this year, and said the busy schedule played a part in his struggles but there

## LOCAL NEWS

**FIRE IN THE FEMALE DORM OF PRISON**

A FIRE ERUPTED in the female dormitory of Her Majesty's Prison last evening, according to reports reaching *The Tribune* newsdesk. Details of the incident were sketchy up to press time last night, however, according to sources close to *The Tribune*, fire fighters were called to the scene and were successful in quickly extinguishing the blaze.

**PM gives warning to trainees**

## FROM page one

Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham asked the 155 men and women, ages 19 to 33, to uphold the law at every opportunity and avoid inheriting others bad habits as he spoke during a ceremony at the Bahamas Communications Public Officers Union (BCPOU) on Farrington Road yesterday morning.

The group is the largest to enter the Bahamas Customs Service together when they graduate at the end of their 11 week training course on Thursday and will make the force around 800 officers strong.

They are joining the Customs Service as government works to improve the public service through both service delivery and procedure and Comptroller of Customs Glen Gomez vowed to increase monitoring of officers to clamp down on misconduct.

Mr Ingraham said corruption and nepotism will not be tolerated in the progressive Customs Service and he vowed to remove anyone who fails to serve the government in their positions.

The Prime Minister said: "This is not the place for dishonesty. This is not the job in which you are able to do favours for anyone regardless of who they are. You must determine that you will not permit anyone to compromise your integrity and your honour."

"You are subject to the law without exception."

"There is no circumstance where you may release goods without collecting the government revenue, or where a senior customs officer can instruct you to do so."

"You are posted to uphold the law, not break it."

He asked the officers to be thorough, polite and respectful in their work whether they are based at the headquarters in New Providence, Grand Bahama or the Family Islands where they may already be resi-

dent.

And he warned of the dangers of working in one's own community.

He said: "Familiarity breeds contempt. Sometimes a posting in a small home town brings difficulties. My instructions for the customs officers is that we are not the law, we are subject to the law. Nothing must compromise your integrity, not your friends or your family."

"The people who are most likely to cause you to do wrong are your friends and family. There is no friendship in this business, you work for the government."

Misconduct will lead to dismissal, the Prime Minister warned.

He said the 16 customs officers charged and dismissed for misconduct have had their cases heard by the public service and the results will be announced soon, while Mr Gomez said any allegations of corruption will be thoroughly investigated.

The Comptroller of Customs is also working to clamp down on misconduct through closer monitoring of officers.

He said: "Long before I came into customs I knew about these things but they were allowed to lie dormant. There are still some officers who need to get their act in order. There are a lot of good officers in customs being tainted by bad people. We need to eliminate that."

Mr Gomez said part of the officers training involves sensitising them to the importance of their duties.

He said: "Morale has been low, and there has been a lackluster approach to discipline."

"We are trying to get people to understand there's a cause and a consequence to whatever you do, right or wrong."

The trainees will start on a salary of \$18,000 for the first probationary year before joining the permanent staff, and will be the first trainee group to start on a new shift system that will see Customs

**Jones licence issues 'taken care of'**

## FROM page one

revoked.

Speaking with *The Tribune* yesterday Mr Jones said that the matter had been taken care of Monday morning.

"It had nothing to do with the payment of any fees. We had an administrative problem and some documents were supposed to be submitted," Mr Jones said.

"The deadline for the submission of those documents was November 30 and we missed the deadline. Everything is taken care of now. It's not as big a deal as some people are making it out to be," he said.

According to a public notice by URSA, some 120 companies had their private land base, broadcasting, trunking, ISP or satellite license revoked in accordance with Section 113(2) of the Communications Act. The Communications Act 2009 gives URCA full powers of regulation and of oversight of the electronic communications sector in The Bahamas. URCA replaced the Public Utilities Commission and the Television Regulatory Authority. According to the notice by URSA all persons granted a license under the Telecommunications Act 1999 and or the Broadcasting Act were given a period of three months with effect from September 1, 2009, to supply URSA with full details of their existing licenses. The notice stated that the licenses of those companies listed had expired and revoked with immediate effect.

The Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority (URCA) was created to serve as the primary governing body of the new regulatory regime for electronic communications in The Bahamas. Companies whose private land base licenses had expired included the Central Bank of the Bahamas, CR Walker Senior High School, Bahamas Food Services, British Colonial Hilton, Commonwealth Bank, Ginn Development Company Limited and Nassau Beach Hotel.

Pursuant to Section 16(1) of the Communications Act 2009, it is an offence for any person to establish, maintain and operate a network or provide a carriage service, including by use of any radio spectrum. Any person found guilty of an offense under Section 16 is subject to a fine not exceeding \$500,000.

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## LOCAL NEWS



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## Jeffrey Lloyd named as person at centre of MP's NIB claims

### FROM page one

but asserted that the \$7,000 daily alleged by Mr Gibson was "grossly exaggerated."

Meanwhile, Mr Lloyd described Mr Gibson's claims of malfeasance as they related to the NIB's conduct in bringing in external trainers and the amount he was paid as "asinine" and "ridiculous."

"Whoever his sources happen to be I think they're being mischievous and just flat out wrong," he told *The Tribune*.

"If that's all the PLP have to say then I think they are clutching at straws and have nothing meaningful to contribute to the dialogue of ongoing national development in this country," said the talk show host.

He too would not reveal what he was paid for the 22 "inspirational" customer service sessions but stated that it was "less than tenth" of what Mr Gibson claimed.

*The Tribune* understands that Mr Lloyd was also contracted to provide the same or similar services during the most recent PLP administration, for staff at government corporations, including the Bahamas Electricity Corporation.

During last Wednesday's session of Parliament, PLP MP for Golden Gates, Shane Gibson, alleged that NIB is "spending money like it's dropping from the sky."

Among a number of allegations of abuse of funds, cronyism and corruption at NIB, the MP charged that executives needlessly hired an unidentified external trainer to provide training for its staff which could have been conducted by their in-house training personnel.

There were 23 of these sessions at a daily cost of \$7,000, alleged Mr Gibson. "This is the greatest abuse of funds," said the MP, referring to this and several other instances of allegedly unnecessary and unfairly disbursed expenditures by the board.

Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham, who also has ministerial responsibility for National Insurance, stated afterwards that while he was not going to "take (the MP's) bait" on the matter, he expected and "directed" NIB executives to "publicly respond" to the allegations.

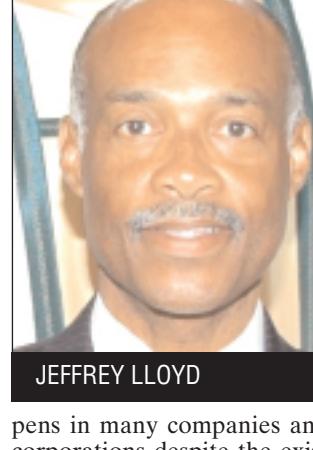
Mr Ingraham said he would speak on the matter after this happened.

Hours later, Mr Cargill issued a lengthy eight-point rebuttal of Mr Gibson's claims of malfeasance, in some cases denying his claims and in others, clarifying and justifying what occurred.

However, asked prior to yesterday's brief parliamentary session whether he was now prepared to speak on the allegations made by Mr Gibson, Mr Ingraham said he has "not got all the facts yet."

"They responded very quickly. I want a detailed response," said the Prime Minister of the NIB's statement.

Yesterday, Mr Cargill and Mr Lloyd both defended the work he did for the board and its cost, saying the contracting of motivational speakers hap-



JEFFREY LLOYD

pens in many companies and corporations despite the existence of in-house training departments.

"It's important to understand that organisations will hire external trainers sometimes because certain expertise may not reside in-house. They may bring some extra perspective. We historically hire external trainers," said Mr Cargill.

Mr Cargill said that all NIB employees participated in the sessions, which took place in June, July, August and the early part of September of this year.

Echoing comments included in last Wednesday's rebuttal, he said that as a result of Mr Lloyd's consultancy the NIB "yielded significant benefits" as it moves to implement new ways to gauge customer satisfaction — including a new online and offline customer satisfaction survey, presently in its "final stages of development."

"It is my expectation that NIB will continue to improve its customer service delivery and the training initiative was the first step in aligning all personnel on the same page," added the Director.

Asked about his eligibility to administer such coaching, Mr Lloyd outlined his "extensive training in all forms of business" practice, including customer service, as a communications consultant and account executive at South-Central Bell Telephone Company, part of AT&T, from 1979 to 1983 and as a brand manager for Colgate Palmolive in New York from 1986 to 1995.

**PLP Chairman denies animosity with police commissioner over rape claims investigation**

### FROM page one

statement, which was issued Sunday read:

"We remain disappointed over the initial 'political' appointment of outgoing Commissioner of Police Reginald Ferguson. This was a

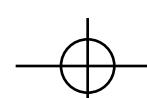
human example of the FNM's policy of 'stop, cancel and review' in what would have been the most appropriate appointment of Mr. Greenslade. This decision we

feel contributed to the disintegration of trust on the Royal Bahamas Police Force as well as very regressive crime fighting strategies during one of the most socially chaotic periods in the history of our country."

Mr Roberts claimed in his statement that it was the fact that he had brought to the attention of the Bahamian public "a serious matter which was dealt with by a Senior Justice of the Supreme Court which involved Commissioner Ferguson. I am being so viciously attacked because of this matter of national interest which I revealed at a meeting of the PLP Fox Hill Branch held on January 23, 2009 which was not at that time of interest to the press."

In a statement issued earlier yesterday the FNM in response to Mr Robert's statement on the outgoing Commissioner of Police said: "It is unfortunate that PLP Chairman Bradley Roberts should continuously seek to politicize the Royal Bahamas Police Force and, in particular, Reginald Ferguson, the outgoing Commissioner of Police."

"While commanding the government on the announcement of the appointment of Elliston Greenslade as Acting Commissioner of Police, Roberts was unable to resist, once again making nasty personal attacks upon the outgoing Commissioner of Police Reginald Ferguson."



# THE TRIBUNE business

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2009

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## BUSINESS

# Crime undermining economic stability

THIS weekend past, I travelled to Exuma to attend a funeral. Funerals, in the Bahamas, take on a special significance, as they tend to bring multiple branches of families together, albeit for a brief period of time. When you add to this the friends of the deceased and immediate family members, you quickly get a unique microcosm of Bahamian society.

I was quite surprised by the number of persons, who lived on New Providence and approached me on last week's article, expressing their concern about the crime situation in the nation. Crime is a huge problem affecting every level of our society in one form or another.

**International press**  
While many people are 'explaining away' the situa-

tion by pointing out that much crime is domestic and/or family related, my greatest fear is that the global press will not capture these subtleties in their stories, which are produced for international consumption.

Whether we like it or not, on a per capita basis, our murder rate thus far puts us squarely in the company of the most dangerous places in the world. In the upcoming year, when international surveys are published citing statistics such as 'murders per capita', the Bahamas will begin to feature more prominently than it has ever done in the past.

Lest we forget, the Bahamas' economy is totally dependent on tourism and financial services. If it becomes widely accepted that we are an unsafe destination, what becomes of our tourism industry? If tourism suffers, it is not long before the financial services sector also suffers. Remember, the wealthy could transfer their trusts, foundations, mutual funds, managed companies to other 'welcoming' jurisdictions, where the real or perceived crime rate is lower - much lower. In fact, as our main

**Financial Focus**

By Larry Gibson

competitors embark upon their marketing trips, what do you think they are quietly saying to potential or existing clients and investors who do business in the Bahamas?

**Travel Advisory**

We should be reminded that the bulk of our tourists come from 'next door', the United States. I was also surprised to learn that the US Embassy in the Bahamas ranks in the top 10 of all US Embassies in the world, in terms of the number of agencies and personnel attached to it. Therefore, the US has a vested interest in the crime situation here in the Bahamas, as many of its citizens are potentially exposed to it. The last thing we want or need is a 'travel advisory' issued by Washington.

**Message for the new Commissioner**

In the midst of the current 'crime wave', we recently had

the announcement about the retirement of the Commissioner of Police and the imminent announcement of a new acting Commissioner. It is not necessary to read anything special into that move per se, as police officers are entitled to retire after qualifying through age and/or completed years of service.

The new Police Commissioner will undoubtedly have his hands full. If I had the opportunity to meet with the new Commissioner, I would tell him that the public at large is totally displeased with the level of crime, especially assaults against the person and robberies in the country today. These are serious times, and bold and innovative approaches must be taken.

I would also tell him that the public have serious concerns about their personal safety, or really the general lack thereof. I would further tell him that the fact that a suspect who is out on double bail for murder could still be causing trouble on the streets is absolutely ludicrous. (In fairness to the Commissioner, he would need the Attorney General to step up to the plate, with proposed legal

reforms, especially as it relates to bail). I would also tell the Commissioner that when he has his first briefing with the Prime Minister, you must present him with a comprehensive list of requirements needed to support your new 'anti-crime' plan.

Why would I say these things to the Commissioner? I would say these things because this is what the public is saying to me each and every day.

As soon as the new Commissioner is announced, he must immediately give an address to the nation, outlining his plans and strategies to combat crime. In fact, it would be nice if his national address were to follow on the heels of the new Attorney General's address to the nation, as both offices must be part of an integrated plan to fight this national scourge.

**Tipping point**

I write primarily about economic matters. However, the threat emanating from uncontrolled crime, coupled with an anaemic Bahamian economy, will threaten investor confidence and inward investment due to the perception of high levels of criminality and law-

lessness.

The Bahamas is currently at a juncture where our very next turn could have a long-term effect on the sustainability of our economy. In the short term, fighting crime must become our number one priority. This steady diet of shooting, stabbings and robbery must come to an end immediately, if not sooner. It is almost like this message is falling on deaf ears. However, the authorities better get it before it is too late.

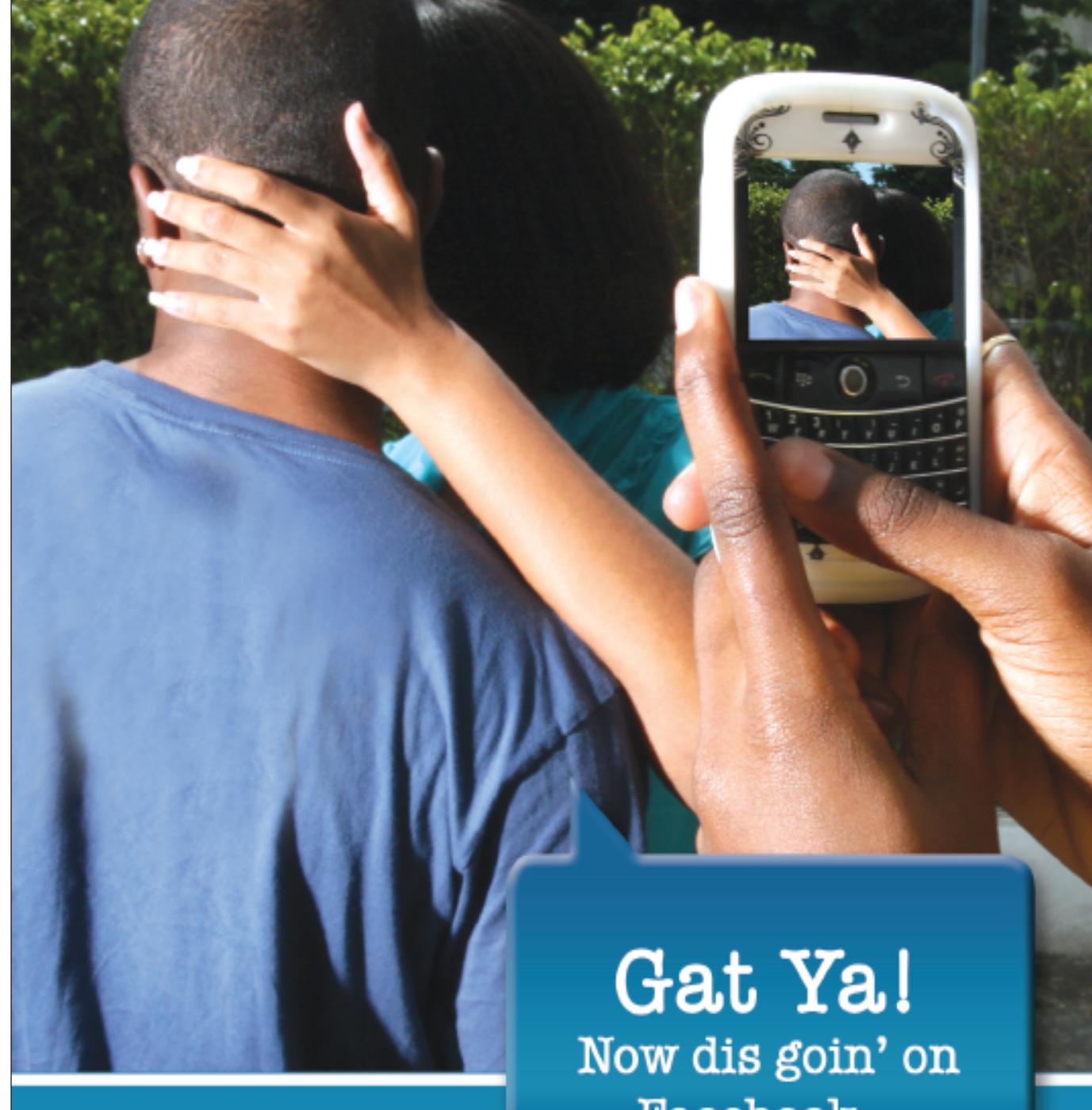
Until next week...

**NB:** Larry R. Gibson, a Chartered Financial Analyst, is vice-president - pensions, Colonial Pensions Services (Bahamas), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Colonial Group International, which owns Atlantic Medical Insurance and is a major shareholder of Security & General Insurance Company in the Bahamas.

The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of Colonial Group International or any of its subsidiary and/or affiliated companies. Please direct any questions or comments to rlgibson@atlantichouse.com.b

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## BUSINESS

# Telecoms executive attends exclusive industry summit

**Bahamas audit firm unveils name change**

BAHAMIAN accounting firm BDO Mann Judd will be known as just 'BDO' from January 1, 2010, onwards due to changes announced at the global level.

BDO, the world's fifth largest accountancy network, has decided that all its member firms - located in 110 countries worldwide - will be adopting the single global trading name of 'BDO'.

Jeremy Newman, BDO's chief executive, said: "This is a very exciting change for BDO, and is the culmination of many years of strategic and operational investment and engagement."

"It demonstrates our member firms' commitment to provide a seamless, integrated service delivering the highest quality advice to all of our clients across the world. It confirms our position as a competitor to not only the largest, but all other businesses operating in our marketplace."

Clifford Culmer, BDO's senior partner in the Bahamas, said he "welcomes the implementation of a global single trading name, as it demonstrates a global cohesive brand and synchronises the entire organisation".

The change will also see BDO entering into arrangements to enable all its member firms to use common IT software, which will facilitate the deployment of new network-wide tools and applications. This will benefit clients, as it will enable easier document and knowledge sharing.

BDO has also strengthened its brand, visual identity, messaging and positioning.

Mr Newman added: "What matters to our clients matters to us. Our clients expect the best possible professional advice and the highest quality service, and the transition to a single global trading name underlines our commitment to deliver this to our clients nationally and internationally."

THE deputy chairman of \$16 million triple-play broadband start-up, IP Solutions International (IPSI), has returned from an invitation-only meeting of 60 senior executives from the world's top telecommunications and broadcasting companies, saying the forum re-affirmed the company's positioning and products.

"It was not only an honour to be among the invited leaders in the industry, but it was also interesting, because meeting with executives from companies like Vodafone and Verizon reaffirmed that IPSI is moving in precisely the right direction, positioning our products and offerings for where a very vibrant and dynamic market is headed," said Brian Quinn, who previously headed up what became



**BRIAN QUINN**, deputy chairman of Nassau-based IP Solutions International (IPSI) (left), is pictured with Jaquelyn Ruff, vice-president, international public policy, Verizon, and Richard Feasey, director public policy, Vodafone Group

Reuters TV News before joining IPSI.

IPSI plans to launch the Bahamas' first triple-play telecom-entertainment offering with video on demand, telephone service and high speed internet in a single-price package next year. It has already cleared the first regulatory hurdles by becoming the first provider to be licensed by URCA, the regulatory body, to provide triple-play service for the Bahamas.

The closed session for executives at the DC Verizon headquarters was held under the auspices of the International Institute of Communications.

Its aim was to examine major shifts in mobile telephones, high speed broadband and TV usage in business and the home.

## 'Poor environmental practices' uncovered

be unaccounted for.

"Contaminated soil and groundwater has occurred from past spills from the operation of fuel systems at the airport," the EIA acknowledged, adding that the existing fuel hydrant system was the responsibility of the oil company consortium - Texaco, Shell (FOCOL) and Esso.

"A plume of jet fuel contamination is known to exist around the international pier, and potentially extending under the international arrivals building," the report added. "The international pier will be demolished in the third stage of the project. The international arrivals building will be demolished and re-built in the third stage. Contamination is also anticipated to exist under the US Terminal in the location of the former tank farm."

The EIA said numerous "mitigation and control" measures would be required to prevent construction activity during the \$409.5 million redevelopment from spreading already contaminated soil and groundwater.

"NAD will attempt to iden-

tify the responsible party for any unexpected contamination discovered," the EIA added. "In the event a responsible party is not found or is not performing at a satisfactory level, NAD will be prepared to take over the investigation and any required remediation and seek cost recovery."

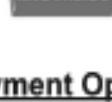
In addition, drawing on evidence from NAD's director of maintenance, IT and engineering, the EIA said the existing flushing water supply system serving LPIA's Terminal 2 had been "contaminated with hydrocarbons from previous oil or fuel spills in the vicinity".

Elsewhere, the EIA said of LPIA's 25 current aircraft

gates: "Neither the quality nor layout of these existing gates is optimal. The gating requirements forecasts indicate a growing requirement for gating to at least 30 gates by 2015, and 33 gates by 2020."

Some 30 gates would be available following completion of the \$199 million US departures terminal by 2010-2011, and 33 gates at the end of 2015.

The EIA added that LPIA's retail and restaurant tenants might also be required to incorporate solar panels into their business for pre-heating water, with NAD also looking to geothermal coolers that consumed 7-8 per cent less electricity.



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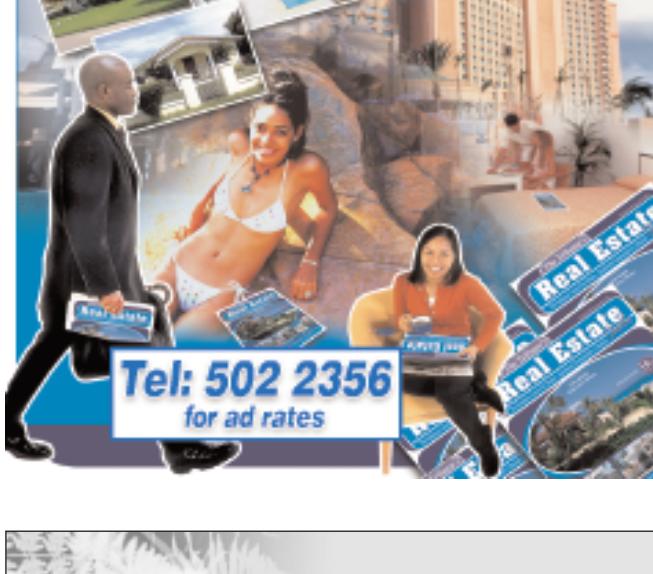
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## BUSINESS

# Top economist: 'Bahamas might not meet' 2012 debt slash target

FROM page 1B

be years rather than quarters," he added. "Our view is it's a new normal, so we're not going back to the envi-

ronment we had in a short while."

Still, Mr Wright said the global economic outlook was continuing to improve and forecasts were starting to be revised upwards, yet this was counterbalanced by the fact that risks to the recovery were weighted towards the downside.

And "uncertainty is very high" among both businesses and consumers, the Royal Bank of Canada economist adding: "Right now, there's a confidence issue. We crept pretty close to the edge in fall last year."

Both the Bahamian and US

economies were heavily dependent on the US consumer, who traditionally accounted for three-quarters of American growth, but Mr Wright said they were likely to become a "moderate" rather than strong driver of global growth.

Reiterating the concerns of many Bahamian economists and businessmen, Mr Wright said many US consumers would be increasingly focused on servicing their debt burden and raising their savings levels, even as incomes rose. This, in turn, means less disposable income, and less money to spend on Bahamian

vacations.

He added that Bahamian economic growth had shown a "more volatile environment" when measured against US gross domestic product (GDP) growth over the years. While the Bahamian economy had lagged slightly behind the US, "the highs are higher and the lows are lower".

Mr Wright said the Bahamas' two main industries - tourism and financial services - were well-established and well-regulated, the country also having benefited from its political stability.

"The relatively prudent fiscal stance puts you in a good position," Mr Wright said of the Bahamas, comparing it to both regional neighbours and the likes of the UK and US, all of which were in much tighter positions with their public finances. As a result, they lacked the policy flexi-

bility to respond to the economic crisis, something the Bahamas had no problem with.

"The fact you have a relatively stable fiscal position, a lower debt burden, is a good position of strength," Mr Wright said, although some Bahamians have expressed alarm at the debt-to-GDP ratio creeping towards 50 per cent.

"The 2012 target on the debt-to-GDP ratio might not be met; it will have to be delayed, but you're in good company. This was an extraordinary crisis, and governments met it with extraordinary policy responses...."

"The deteriorating fiscal situation here is something seen around the world, and is much less than in other countries. You have the fiscal flexibility to do it, rather than fiscal constraints, where spending has to be cut and taxes raised, hurting the economy rather than helping it."

Mr Wright said international credit rating agencies and the likes of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) had "well received the Bahamas" for its fiscal prudence over the years.

He also commended the Ingraham administration for focusing its fiscal stimulus on infrastructure programmes, such as the \$409.5 million Lynden Pindling International Airport (LPIA) redevelopment; the New Providence Road Improvement project and the construction of government office complexes.

Such projects generated "the biggest bang for the buck", enhancing a country's capital stock and long-term infrastructure capacity.

However, Mr Wright added: "Diversification has been a lesson learned through this crisis, so on the tourism

side you probably need to diversify sources."

Noting that neither the recession, nor the recovery, were made in the Bahamas, Mr Wright said a critical issue confronting governments around the world was the timing of the 'exit strategy' from their various stimulus programmes.

Pull them too early, and a "double dip" recession could be forthcoming, but waiting too long carried inflation risks, the Royal Bank of Canada economist warned, adding: "It's a delicate balance."

He added that the policy tools now in use globally - low interest rates, mass liquidity and unsustainable fiscal policies - were the same ones that had led to the financial crisis/credit crunch, then the recession.

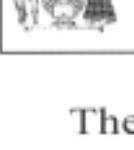
Mr Wright said the low interest rate and loosened fiscal policies were unsustainable in the long-term and would have to be tightened, adding that the current crisis had shown the need for governments to link spending to the economy's health.

He suggested tying government spending to inflation and population growth, since this would keep per capita spending flat. While there were inflation risks, something that would not be helped by higher oil prices, Mr Wright expressed confidence that governments would be able to contain this, especially since there was much excess capacity on the supply side in the US as a result of high unemployment.

The Royal Bank economist added that countries also needed to get the regulatory balance right, warning that getting too tough would both raise the price, and choke the availability, of credit.

## INSIGHT

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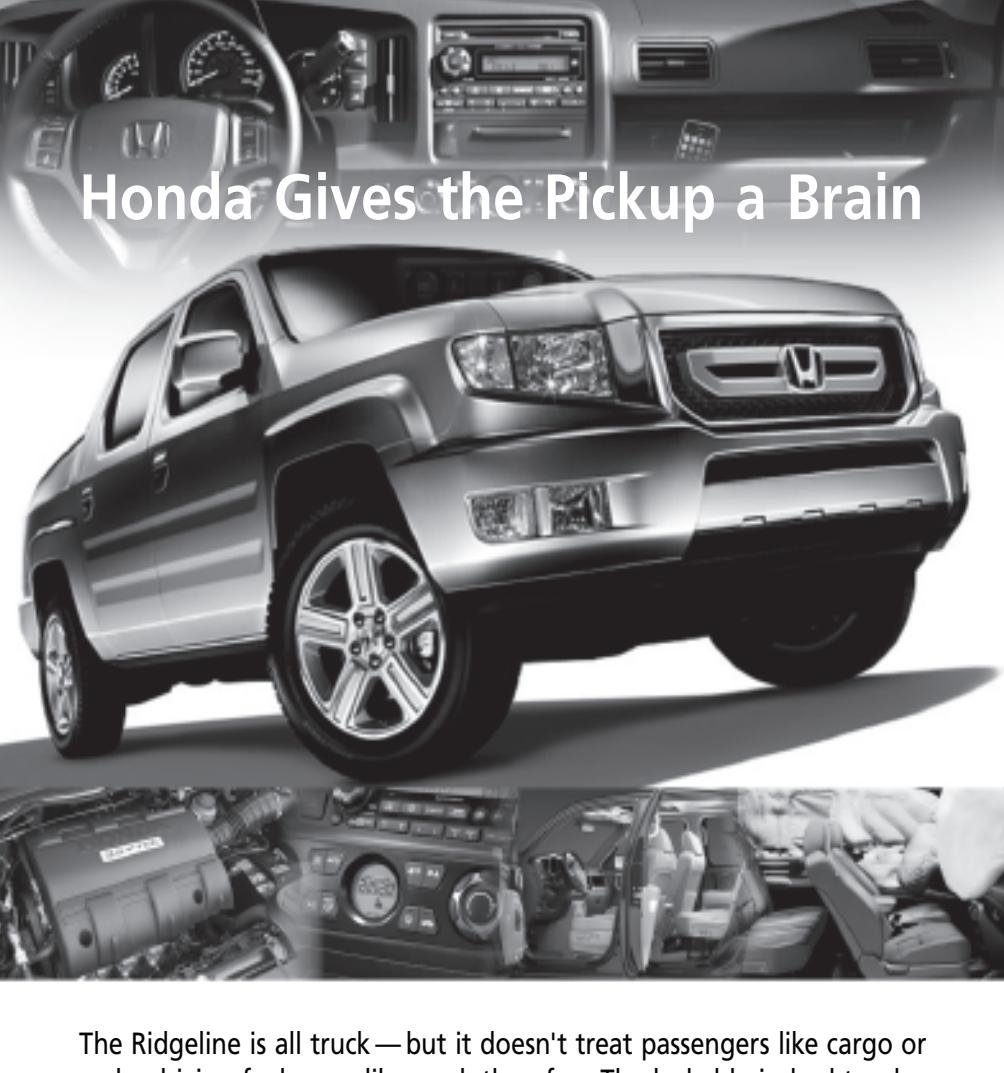
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7. Must be energized, driven, creative and passionate about marketing.
8. Must have a Driver's license and a reliable vehicle is highly preferred.

Interested applicants are asked to submit their application letters and CVs on or before **December 10th 2009** to the following:

Email: [hr@bristolbahamas.com](mailto:hr@bristolbahamas.com)

Post: **ATTN: Field Marketing Manager Vacancy**  
**Bristol Group of Companies**  
**Gladstone Road, PO Box N-131**

## BUSINESS

# \$16m start-up targets \$20m profits by '14

FROM page 1B

to \$10.454 million in 2012, \$16.107 million in 2013, and \$20.507 million in 2014.

Elsewhere, though, IP Solutions International has also revised downwards its operating margin projections, dropping these to a range between 63.2 per cent in its first year and 71.32 per cent in the fifth year (2014). This compares to previous forecasts of an operating margin range between 85.33 per cent in the first year and 83.49 per cent in the fifth year.

And returns on total revenues have also been revised, to 0.75 per cent for IP Solutions International's first year in business and 49.14 per cent in its fifth year.

IP Solutions International is targeting Bahamian consumers, chiefly hotels and gated communities in the first instance, with its 'Multiple

Play' bundle of services delivered via a wireless Internet infrastructure.

The company, in its projections, expects revenues derived from delivering Internet, Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) and Video On Demand (VOD) services to Bahamas-based hotels to grow 288 per cent year-over-year in 2011. Thereafter, top-line growth in this segment is anticipated to be more muted, with revenues growing year-over-year by 56 per cent in 2012, 23 per cent in 2013, and 8 per cent in 2014.

"Once regulatory approvals have been received, IP Solutions expects to penetrate the residential market," the company said in its financial projections. "In 2010, the Multi-Play residential subscriber rate will be \$119 per month, with an expected 10,000 subscriber base."

"In 2011, we assume a sub-

scriber rate increase to \$125 per month, with no significant subscriber base change. We anticipate a year-on-year Multi-Play revenue increase of 20 per cent in years 2012 through 2014.

## Excess

"In 2010, in excess of 50,000 Video on Demand residential subscriber purchases per month is expected at an average rate of \$4 per rental. We project year-on-year growth of 10 per cent for years 2011 through 2014."

Residential revenues from Multi-Play and VOD were estimated at \$14.3 million and \$3 million respectively for 2010, with VOD increasing by 10 per cent annually to hit \$6.2 million by 2014.

On the cost side, IP Solutions International said: "Bandwidth cost is directly related to the capacity of

bandwidth required, and the purchase of spectrum licence.

"It is anticipated that in 2010 bandwidth costs will approximate \$41,667 per month or \$500,000." These costs were expected to increase by 51 per cent in 2011, rising by a further 17 per cent in 2012 and 14 per cent and 25 per cent in 2013 and 2014 respectively, to hit \$1.3 million in the latter year.

IP Solutions International added that gaming content would be "provided at \$2 per day per subscriber", producing 90-plus per cent margins, with new VOD releases based on a 10 per cent profit margin.

Elsewhere, IP Solutions International estimated that staff salaries would increase by 60 per cent in 2011, compared to 2010. Further rises of 12.5 per cent, 22 per cent and 59 per cent would be experienced in 2012, 2013 and 2014 respectively, as the com-

pany's operations expanded.

The company is also understood not to have signed a Letter of Intent with Columbus Networks to sub-lease fibre optic bandwidth and gain access to the ARCO cable network, despite stating this had occurred in its Business Plan.

As previously revealed by Tribune Business yesterday, IP Solutions International is in the process of adjusting its business plans after its \$16 million offering - seeking \$8 million in equity capital, \$4 million in preference shares and \$4 million in bank debt - was "undersubscribed" by Bahamian investors.

The company is now in talks with a potential international strategic/financing partner, which has indicated its willingness to invest capital in

IP Solutions International to take it beyond the initial \$16 million target.

However, Edison Sumner, IP Solutions International's president and chief executive, told this newspaper that the company's launch may be delayed by several months, although it still hoped to launch some of its Multi-Play services by the 2010 first quarter.

Out of the initial \$16 million capital that IP Solutions International targeted, the company's private placement memorandum said some \$10 million would be used for capital expenses such as infrastructure, head-end and wireless tower construction, with another \$5 million earmarked for operating expenses such as salaries, rents and licence fees.

**For the stories behind the news,  
read *Insight* on Mondays**

# 30% of homes to be 'smart' within decade

FROM page 1B

"I've got clients who, when flying in, over the i-phone turn on the jacuzzi," he added. "The entire house is controlled by i-phone."

Acknowledging the current limits on rolling out the 'smart home' concept, Mr Tsavoussis said the costs of installing such technology currently amounted to about 10 per cent of total construction costs.

"In its present form, it's not feasible to do it with a home less than 500,000 square feet," he said. Several penthouses Mr Tsavoussis had fitted with 'smart home' technology, at 3,000 square feet, had incurred costs worth 20 per

cent of total construction.

"If you really go full-out, it can get quite expensive," Mr Tsavoussis said. "Presently, only 3 per cent of new homes are smart homes. This is going to change in the next decade."

We're looking at hardware costs dropping to one-tenth of what they are now, and then we can start to go mass market."

Industry projections indicate that in a decade, 30 per cent of homes will be smart."

Among the applications that would come into use then, Mr Tsavoussis suggested, would be communications between homes. In addition, when moving between rooms, the TV in the area vacated

would switch off, and the one in the room entered turn on.

"Whatever you are doing in the previous room will follow you into the next room, so you become more energy efficient," Mr Tsavoussis said. "With a smart home you can monitor alternative energy services, keep track of local power and monitor what you sell back to the grid. All of this is seamless."

Technology, using RFID, could be used to track and locate almost any object in the home, he added, while mood detectors could detect a person's mood and deliver music and other entertainment to either pick them up or calm them down.

## NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that LUCKSON PAUL of BURIAL GROUND CORNER, P.O. BOX N-7070, NASSAU, BAHAMAS, is applying to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, for registration/naturalization as a citizen of The Bahamas, and that any person who knows any reason why registration/naturalization should not be granted, should send a written and signed statement of the facts within twenty-eight days from the 8<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2009 to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

## Legal Notice

## NOTICE

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 137 of the International Business Companies Act, (No. 45 of 2000), NOTICE is hereby given that CABO MAYOR LTD. is in dissolution and the date of commencement of the dissolution is December 1st, 2009

Lorna Kemp and Margaret Tatem-Gilbert  
LIQUIDATORS  
c/o EFG Bank & Trust (Bahamas) Ltd  
#1 Bay Street 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Centre of Commerce  
P.O. Box SS-6289  
Nassau, Bahamas

## NOTICE NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION

### OF CORNELL & BRANDON LIMITED

Notice is hereby given that liquidation of the above company commenced on the 7th day of December, 2009. Credit Suisse Trust Limited of Bahamas Financial Centre, Shirley & Charlotte Streets, P.O.Box N-3023, Nassau, The Bahamas has been appointed Liquidator of the Company.

Credit Suisse Trust Limited  
Liquidator

## NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 228 of the Companies Act, 1992 notice is given that:-

(a) Farrem Investments Limited is in dissolution.

(b) The date of commencement of the dissolution is the 9th day of November, A.D. 2009.

(c) The name of the Liquidator is Ché Toussaint Erad Campbell Chase of Campbell Chase Law, Rosetta Street and Mount Royal Avenue, P.O. Box N-4447, Nassau, Bahamas.

Ché Toussaint Erad Campbell Chase  
Liquidator

## NOTICE

### NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION

### OF

### GREENSTAR LIMITED

Notice is hereby given that liquidation of the above company commenced on the 7th day of December, 2009. Credit Suisse Trust Limited of Bahamas Financial Centre, Shirley & Charlotte Streets, P.O.Box N-3023, Nassau, The Bahamas has been appointed Liquidator of the Company.

Credit Suisse Trust Limited  
Liquidator

BISX LISTED & TRADED SECURITIES AS OF: FRIDAY, 4 DECEMBER 2009											
BISX ALL SHARE INDEX: CLOSE 1,492.89   CHG 0.02   %CHG 0.00   YTD -219.47   YTD % -12.82 FINDEX: CLOSE 000.00   YTD 00.00%   2008 -12.31%											
WWW.BISXBAHAMAS.COM   TELEPHONE: 242-323-2330   FACSIMILE: 242-323-2320											
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Security	Symbol	Previous Close	Today's Close	Change	Daily Vol.	EPS \$	Div \$	P/E	
1.71	1.03	AML Foods Limited	FBB17	1.17	1.17	0.00	0.127	0.000	9.2	0.00%	
11.40	9.90	Bancorp Preferred Fund	FBB18	10.75	10.75	0.00	9.925	0.000	10.3	1.88%	
5.30	5.00	Bank of Bahamas	FBB19	5.00	5.00	0.00	100	0.044	0.260	24.2	4.15%
0.89	0.63	Benchmark	FBB20	0.63	0.63	0.00	-0.877	0.000	N/M	0.00%	
3.49	3.15	Bahamas Waste	FBB21	3.15	3.15	0.00	0.125	0.090	25.2	2.86%	
2.37	2.14	Cable Bahamas	FBB22	2.37	2.37	0.00	0.055	0.040	43.1	1.69%	
14.04	9.92	Cable Bahamas	FBB23	10.00	10.00	0.00	1.406	0.250	7.1	2.50%	
2.88	2.72	Cable Bahamas	FBB24	2.72	2.72	0.00	0.249	0.000	10.9	1.47%	
7.19	5.26	Commonwealth Bank (S1)	FBB25	5.73	5.73	0.00	400	0.322	0.520	28.9	5.60%
3.85	1.27	Consolidated Water BDRs	FBB26	2.61	2.63	0.02	0.111	0.052	23.7	1.98%	
2.85	1.32	Doctor's Hospital	FBB27	2.55	2.55	0.00	1,500	0.625	0.080	4.1	3.14%
6.20	6.28	Famguard	FBB28	6.49	6.49	0.00	0.420	0.240	15.5	5.70%	
11.87	8.80	Finco	FBB29	9.29	9.29	0.00	400	0.322	0.520	28.9	5.60%
11.71	9.86	First Caribbean Bank	FBB30	9.96	9.96	0.00	0.615	0.300	15.5	5.52%	
5.53	4.11	Focul (S)	FBB31	4.75	4.75	0.00	0.026	0.150	14.6	3.16%	
1.00	1.00	Focul Class B Preference	FBB32	1.00	1.00	0.00	51,000	0.000	0.000	N/M	0.00%
0.45	0.27	Freetop Concrete	FBB33	0.27	0.27	0.00	0.035	0.000	7.7	0.00%	
9.02	5.49	ICD Utilities	FBB34	5.59	5.59	0.00	672	0.407	0.500	13.7	8.94%
12.00	9.95	J. S. Johnson	FBB35	9.95	9.95	0.00	0.952	0.640	10.5	6.43%	
10.00	10.00	Premier Real Estate	FBB36	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.156	0.000	64.1	0.00%	
BISX LISTED DEBT SECURITIES - (Bonds trade on a Percentage Pricing basis)											
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Symbol	Bid \$	Ask \$	Last Price	Weekly Vol.	EPS \$				

## BUSINESS

# ROYAL FIDELITY MARKET WRAP

By RoyalFidelity Capital Markets

IT was a moderate week of

trading in the Bahamian stock market. Investors last week traded in 13 out of the 24 listed securities, of which one

declined, two advanced and 10 remained unchanged.

## EQUITY MARKET

A total of 98,077 shares changed hands, representing an increase of 19,312 shares, compared to last week's trading volume of 78,765 shares.

Focal Holdings Class B Preferred shares (FCLB) was the volume leader, trading 51,000 shares, with the stock closing at par value of \$1.

Commonwealth Bank (CBL) was the lead advancer, trading 30,846 shares and seeing its share price increase by \$0.11 to close the week at \$5.73.

FamGuard Corporation (FAM) also saw its stock increase last week, its stock advancing \$0.09 on a volume of 1,000 to close the week at \$6.49.

First Caribbean International Bank Bahamas (CIB) traded 8,459 shares, its stock declining by \$0.01 to close the week at a new 52-week low of \$9.86.

## BOND MARKET

Investors traded \$574,000 (par value) worth of Fidelity Bank (Bahamas) Notes.

Series C Notes Due 2013 (FBB13) traded five, Series D Due 2015 (FBB15) traded 254, Series A Due 2017

(FBB17) traded 96 and Series B Due 2022 (FBB22) traded 219.

## COMPANY NEWS

There was no company news released last week.

### Dividend Notes:

*Bank of the Bahamas (BOB)* has declared a dividend of \$0.16 per share, payable on December 15, 2009, to all ordinary shareholders of record date December 8, 2009.

*Commonwealth Bank (CBL)* has declared a dividend of \$0.05 per share, payable on December 31, 2009, to all ordinary shareholders of record date December 15, 2009.

## The Bahamian Stock Market

BISX CLOSING CHANGE VOLUME YTD PRICE SYMBOL PRICE % CHANGE

BISX SYMBOL	CLOSING PRICE	CHANGE	VOLUME	YTD PRICE % CHANGE
AML	\$1.17	\$-	0	-31.58%
BBL	\$0.63	\$-	0	-4.55%
BOB	\$5.90	\$-	800	-22.77%
BPF	\$10.75	\$-	0	-8.90%
BSL	\$10.06	\$-	0	-1.28%
BWL	\$3.15	\$-	0	0.00%
CAB	\$10.00	\$-	0	-28.72%
CBL	\$5.73	\$0.11	30,846	-18.14%
CHL	\$2.72	\$-	0	-3.89%
CIB	\$9.86	\$-0.01	8,459	-5.65%
CWCB	\$2.64	\$-0.02	0	17.33%
DHS	\$2.55	\$-	1,500	0.00%
FAM	\$6.49	\$0.09	1,000	-16.79%
FBB	\$2.37	\$-	0	0.00%
FCC	\$0.27	\$-	0	-10.00%
FCL	\$4.75	\$-	3,400	-8.12%
FCLB	\$1.00	\$-	51,000	0.00%
FIN	\$9.29	\$-	400	-21.74%
ICD	\$5.59	\$-	672	-8.81%
JSJ	\$9.95	\$-	0	-10.36%
PRE	\$10.00	\$-	0	0.00%

## International Markets

### FOREX Rates

	Weekly	% Change
CAD\$	0.9455	0.54
GBP	1.6452	-0.07
EUR	1.4851	-0.76

	Weekly	% Change
Crude Oil	\$75.74	-0.41
Gold	\$1,163.00	-1.06

### International Stock Market Indexes:

	Weekly	% Change
DJIA	10,388.90	0.77
S & P 500	1,105.98	1.72
NASDAQ	2,194.35	2.61
Nikkei	10,022.59	10.36

## Government 'well advanced' on critical IBC amendments

chaos, especially for the Bahamian financial services industry and a number of its clients.

His ruling effectively means that all IBCs reinstated since the IBCs Act 2000 was passed, after being struck off for non-payment of fees, should not now be incorporated. Such restorations have been going on for nine years, and potentially might not only impact the Bahamas' international clients, but domestic businesses, too, given that Bahamians can now incorporate companies as IBCs.

However, Mr Delaney said: "I see no cause for alarm or panic. We intend to be very responsive to this issue that has arisen, and are already actioning our response. We're well on the way."

The Attorney General declined to estimate how many IBCs might potentially be impacted by Justice Adderley's ruling, telling Tribune Business that the statistics were not available to him, and "it's not a question of a numbers game".

"If there is an issue that requires remediation, repair by legislation, as long as it requires repair it's going to be addressed," Mr Delaney added. "If there is something in need of remediation, it would be in the interests of the Office of the Attorney General to ensure these things are addressed. As they come to our attention, we will do so."

When asked whether Justice Adderley's ruling showed that the IBCs Act 2000, which

amended the 1989 version, was drafted poorly and in haste, Mr Delaney replied that it did not, since it only highlighted one area of concern.

"I think it simply indicates that there is an issue that needs to be addressed, and that's not uncommon with legislation, whatever the statute might be," Mr Delaney told Tribune Business.

As previously revealed by this newspaper, Justice Adderley reached his decision in ruling that a writ and statement of claim filed against BDO Mann Judd, its senior partner and accountant Clifford Culmer, and Callender's & Co attorney and partner, Michael Scott, be struck out. A \$208,850 default judgment

against Mr Culmer and BDO Mann Judd was also set aside.

The action had been brought by the Tenesheles trust and the Hawthorne Sterling Family of Funds, the former having owned the latter, which was a group of 35 underlying mutual funds.

"The primary claim is that the defendants wrongfully induced the Securities Commission of the Bahamas to place the underlying 35 companies which comprise the Hawthorne Sterling Family of Funds into a 'protective liquidation,'" Justice Adderley recalled.

"This liquidation, according to the plaintiffs, was carried out by the defendants in such a way that it stripped the Fund Companies of their monetary assets, which pri-

marily went by way of payment fees to the defendants, their servants and agents."

Justice Adderley noted that the Hawthorne Sterling Family of Funds was struck off the IBCs register for non-payment of fees on August 31, 2002. The company commenced its action on April 7, 2004, three months before it was returned to the register on June 7, 2004.

"However, the IBC Act 2000 contained no express provision, nor does it contain one now, for the Registrar to restore a company to the register if struck-off for non-payment of fees," Justice Adderley recalled.

While agreeing that Parliament had amended several "absurdities" in the IBC Act 2000 over the years, Justice

Adderley said there was nothing "implied" in that legislation that allowed the Registrar General, acting as the Registrar of Companies, to restore an IBC after it was struck-off for non-payment of fees.

As a result, Justice Adderley said Hawthorne Sterling's restoration was a "nullity", as the Registrar had no power to do so. This meant Hawthorne Sterling had no power to sue or bring the action. "I find that since the repeal of the 1989 IBC Act, the Registrar ceased to have the power to restore a company that had been struck-off the Register for non-payment of prescribed fees and any such purported restorations by him are null and void," Justice Adderley ruled.

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## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES



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The Tribune

WOMAN

BODY AND MIND

# health



By JEFFARAH GIBSON

**E**VEN though HIV/AIDS is the deadliest of all venereal diseases, other sexually transmitted infections including chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis, genital herpes and genital warts are more widespread and pose dire health risks if they are not detected, diagnosed, and treated in a timely manner.

Health organisations around the world have been doing everything they can to ensure awareness of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs).

Family life and health science classes have been implemented in schools. There are even signs on the side of the road advocating abstinence and the use of condoms, yet there is still a high incidence of STDs.

Could it be that there a lot of persons who lack knowledge of venereal diseases, or do they simply display irresponsible behaviours?

Dr Philipa Pratt at the Comprehensive Clinic in Nassau spoke with Tribune Health about the topic.

She said there are a number of reasons for the high incidence of

STDs in the Bahamas, with chlamydia leading the way.

"I have had people who were diagnosed with gonorrhoea say that they have never even heard about that disease. There are programmes in schools like family life that are meant to teach students about these diseases and I find it very interesting when they say they don't know what the disease is," she said.

And people's lack of knowledge can have serious consequences.

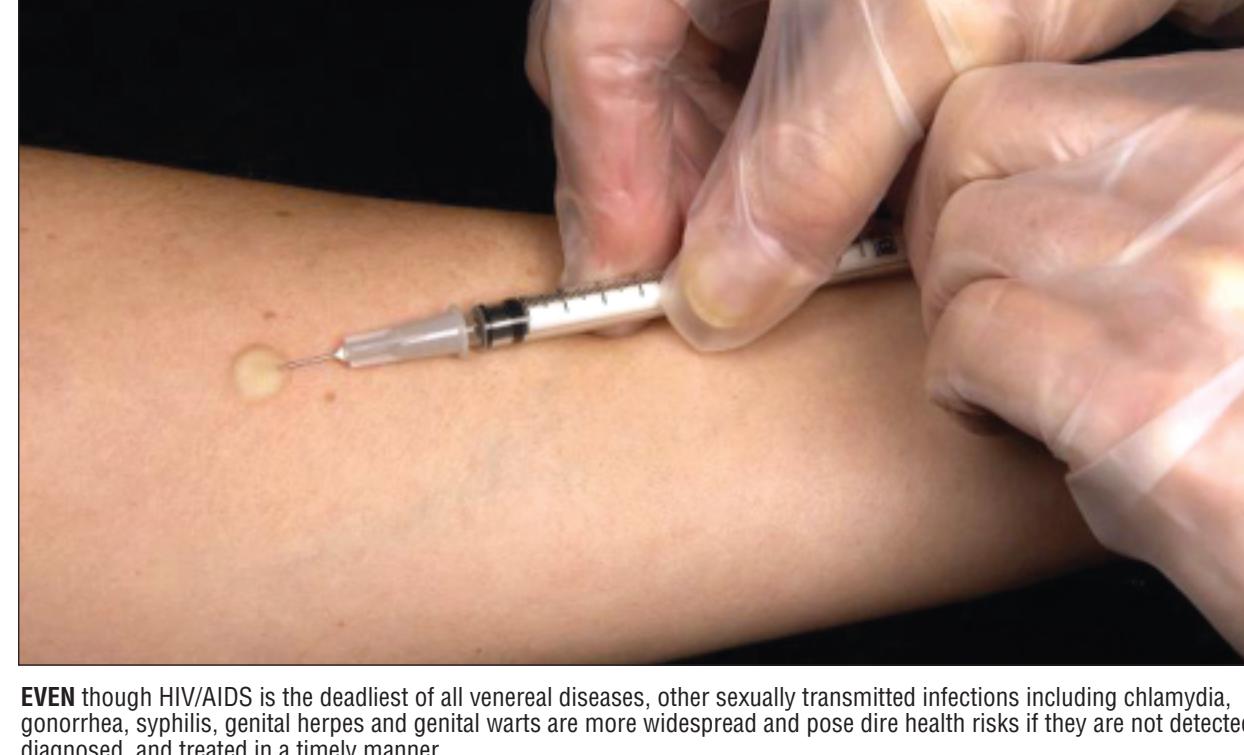
"There are some people out there who may not know about the disease and some who don't think anything can happen to them, so they go out and have sex without protecting themselves and end up contracting a disease," she said.

Out all of the diseases, Dr Pratt said the most common ones that Bahamians are treated for are chlamydia, gonorrhoea, genital warts, genital herpes and syphilis.

According to statistics from the Comprehensive Clinic there were 510 cases of chlamydia, 104 cases of gonococcal infection, 26 cases of genital herpes, 17 cases of genital warts, 37 cases of non-specific urethritis, and nine cases of trichomonas reported in the year 2006.

However, these statistics only account for the reported cases at public clinics on the island.

"Chlamydia is one of the more



**EVEN** though HIV/AIDS is the deadliest of all venereal diseases, other sexually transmitted infections including chlamydia, gonorrhoea, syphilis, genital herpes and genital warts are more widespread and pose dire health risks if they are not detected, diagnosed, and treated in a timely manner.

common STDs. When this disease is contracted most people have no signs at all, while on the other hand

some people have signs. It can be characterised by a burning sensation when urinating, a discharge from the penis and the vagina, frequent urination, and worst case scenario, they can pass blood in the urine, and men can have a swollen scrotum" she said.

Chlamydia is one of those diseases that can be cured with antibiotics prescribed by a physician. Persons can either take tablets or get an injection.

Another common STD is gonorrhoea.

"Gonorrhoea symptoms differ in men and women, and it is a very painful disease. Women who have gonorrhoea might have a thick, heavy discharge with a very bad odour. But it is important for every woman to know what is normal for her, since all women have a discharge during the cycle," she said.

Abnormal bleeding is also an indication that something could be wrong.

Genital warts is another very contagious disease that is caused by the human papillomavirus (HPV). It spreads through direct skin contact during oral, anal, or vaginal sex.

"People often recognise something is wrong when they begin to see a cluster of abrasions on their genitals. In women they occur on the outside and inside of the vagina, on the opening of the cervix, or around the anus. When the virus is present in men cluster of abrasions is usually found on the tip of the penis (glans), on the scrotum or around the anus," Dr Pratt said.

If a person has oral sex with an infected partner there is a very good chance they will contract the virus. And although it is very rare for warts to appear on the mouth, in this case it can.

Unfortunately, there is no cure for genital warts.

However, the disease can be treated which will reduce infectivity and the visibility of warts.

If one is sexually active it is important to get annual checkups for STDs, because if a disease is left undetected then it will lead to other serious illnesses.

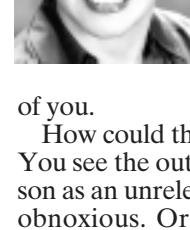
"For instance syphilis is a very painful disease, and people often don't realise that they have it. When a disease like syphilis is left undetected or treated it can damage the heart, brain, eyes and the bones," Dr Pratt said.

"I want to encourage persons, especially the group under the age of 25, to get tested at least once a year. Here at the clinic we do blood tests and we test for everything. Also treatment is free of charge."

Knowing your status when it comes to syphilis, gonorrhoea, chlamydia, genital warts, or any other STD is vital, because if not detected it can increase susceptibility in contracting the HIV virus.

## LOVING RELATIONSHIPS

# Have we fallen out of love?



By MAGGIE BAIN

the longer you are together.

As we get more comfortable with each other, it is inevitable that our true colours start to shine through. The signs of how a relationship is going to survive depend on how both parties react to change. It is the inflexibility and illusion that love has to remain in the initial euphoric high that derails many dating couples. It is unrealistic because we know that real love can remain constant even with the ebb and flow of life.

As we go through life, either tip-toeing or throwing our selves into love, we discover that there are many types of love.

First encounters with love may be an infatuation, without commitment or intimacy, and all too often is one sided. Ideally, marriage is considered a consummate love because it includes passion, commitment and intimacy.

As we age, we may be happy with a companion love which may lack

passion but is filled with commitment and intimacy.

Then, there is empty love which is without passion or intimacy, and is held together by commitment.

Feelings of having 'fallen out of love' can happen at any stage because it is all to do with the illusion and expectations of the love.

When respect, commitment, trust and love are tested then it makes us question the status of the love.

For many it is a revelation that the elevator will reach different floors of trust throughout the span of the partnership. Life is continuously changing and people change. It is crushing to feel the elevator of trust dropping from the top floor to the basement. But with maintenance you can be reassured the elevator will move up again.

It is at these times that we all question our love.

It is a challenge, but believing that people can change if they are truly remorseful helps you not to lose sight of the big picture.

Remember what you are feeling may well be what your partner is feeling. Take time and talk to each other. It may be just the mundane

routine of life that has pushed the romance out of your lives. Think back to the high passion days and reintroduce those things which used to give you both so much pleasure.

Then, introduce new and riskier things to add excitement and a new passion. Know that you will see your partner with new eyes and a fresh energy will enter your relationship. The challenge is to adapt and not to give up. Do not let toxic thoughts consume your relationship. If you have a sense that your love is slipping away then get professional help. Do not let all those years and history go up in a puff of smoke.

**"As we age, we may be happy with a companion love which may lack passion but is filled with commitment and intimacy."**

## Spa La La Party for Girls

A FEW lucky girls were recently treated to manicures and strawberry cream facials while outfitting in kid-sized robes at the 'Kids Pamper Suite' hosted by Spa La La Party for Girls in the Hair Spray Salon.

As part of the 'Little Pink Honour Your Heroine' event held last week, the girls received their spa treatments and goodies by Motions kids products at the pamper suite.

They were also treated to an individual photo shoot and cutting of Spa La La's signature 'Spa Bag' cake made by local bakery Somethings Different.



**GIRLS** at the spa pamper suite with the Spa La La signature 'Spa Bag' cake.

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# The wonder of Heirloom tomatoes

**W**HEN you buy a package of hybrid tomato seeds you purchase the end product of a remarkable process by which two different varieties of tomato that have distinctive qualities are married to produce offspring that reliably carry on the main traits of the parents.

Perhaps the main traits are size and disease resistance. Maybe shape and colour. Maybe firmness to resist packaging problems like bruising. Maybe high yield. But rarely flavour.

Don't get me wrong. At this very moment I have hybrid tomatoes growing in my garden that will be far superior to imported tomatoes because I grew them. They will be prolific – I'm talking about Early Girl and Big Boy and such – and all you need from a tomato.

Until you taste an heirloom tomato.

Do you like chocolate? There is chocolate and good chocolate, with varying degrees of cacao content and sometimes some flavouring like ginger or raspberry. All are delicious.

Then you taste Mozarkenkeln from Salzburg and realise you have never experienced the best until now.

That is the way with heirloom tomatoes, well-established open-pollinated tomatoes that open your eyes – sorry, taste buds – to real tomato flavour.

Heirloom tomatoes do not have a definition, but anything called a recent heirloom should be regarded with suspicion.

Generally an heirloom tomato is one that has been established for at least 50 years.

They are open-pollinated and have proved themselves to be reliable. The progeny of hybrid seeds are unreliable but you can plant the seeds of open-pollinated heirloom seeds for generations.

I have already mentioned that I have hybrid plants growing in my

garden.

I should also mention that I have seedbeds of heirloom tomatoes ready for my third crop of the season. Hybrid tomatoes are reliable and I find them best for the first crop of the season. I have some Cuban tomatoes I want to try out so they are in the second crop. I really obtained them to see how well they went into summer but I need to keep the stock viable.

Last year I grew Pink Brandywine as my first crop of tomatoes and then realised it was not a good choice. Pink Brandywine may very well be the finest tasting tomato of them all but it produces lightly and late. I have heard that Red Brandywine has similar flavour and produces a larger crop but I have never come across any seeds.

What are the differences between heirloom and hybrid tomatoes?

There is no doubt that flavour goes onto the side of heirlooms otherwise they would not have been around so long. Then you have the fact that you can save the seeds for next year's crop.

Heirloom tomatoes only have natural disease resistance, not promoted resistance. That does not mean that heirloom tomatoes lie down and die at the first sign of attack. Roma and Rutgers are open-pollinated heirloom tomatoes that are sold commercially without letting you know you do not have to buy seeds again next year, yet they are remarkably disease resistant.

Many heirloom tomatoes, like Pink Brandywine, are low yielders but that is not the case for all heirloom tomatoes. Many are prolific.

But there is another problem: Shape.

Heirloom tomatoes tend to be what they are – I am what I am and I don't give a damn – and often the delicious flavour is offset by cracked shoulders, strange protrusions as with Giant Pink Ruffled, and shapes that are more banana than tomato.

And then the colours – far deeper than commercial varieties. Black Krim and Paul Robeson really do border on their definition.

Many heirloom tomatoes are orange and yellow, a far greater per-

**GIGANT** Pink Ruffled is worth growing because of its exotic shape – But it tastes great too!



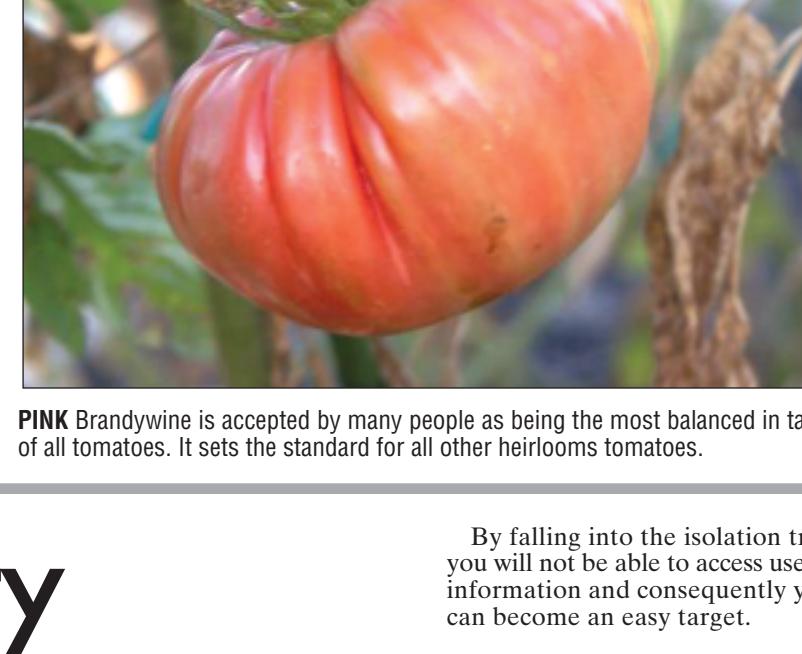
centage than with hybrid tomatoes that cater to the public conception of a tomato being round and red.

If you have never grown heirloom tomatoes, give them a try.

I say that because I know they will start off by being 'you little orphans' and become your princes or princesses. Sow their seeds every year and make them your own.

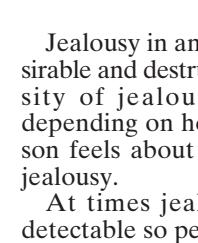
To end, the best sandwich in the world: Two slices of firm bread, a half-inch slice of Cherokee Purple, Pink Brandywine or Mr Stripey (or Boxcar Willie, Giant Pink Ruffled, Jefferson Giant and a multitude more), a brief lick of mayonnaise on each slice of bread and – gourmet slam bam!

• For questions or comments you can contact Gardener Jack at [j.hardy@coralwave.com](mailto:j.hardy@coralwave.com)



**PINK** Brandywine is accepted by many people as being the most balanced in taste of all tomatoes. It sets the standard for all other heirlooms tomatoes.

## Jealousy: An ugly reality



By YVETTE BETHEL

I had several conversations during the past week and jealousy seemed to be a unifying theme in each conversation.

One person described a situation where she was being left out of the communication loop so that information critical to her performance was being withheld by her manager.

There was another person who described a situation where he felt a project wasn't rewarded because of a past experience with the decision maker which was based on gossip.

Interestingly enough, the decision maker never even bothered to find out the facts; she accepted the statements at face value.

There are others who use gossip and attack others, some use exaggeration or minimisation as malicious tools.

There are numerous ways that jealousy raises its unwelcome head and when it infiltrates the workplace, it impedes teamwork and productivity because working relationships are impaired and trust levels are low to non-existent.

Here are a few situations that can typically attract a jealous reaction:

When someone achieves something you have been wanting. When someone you dislike succeeds. When someone gets something you don't think they deserve. When someone seems to be favoured by a decision maker.

achievements and for others it is caused by lifestyle and possessions.

Jealousy is the result of a person's view of themselves. It surfaces when someone perceives you as having something they don't have and because they see the world in terms of lack and not abundance, this makes them angry or fearful.

Some jealous people will fake it and overextend themselves so that they can appear to be your friend, others will not try to be congenial at all, their mission is to bully or sabotage you.

Fear is another cause of jealousy.

For instance, when new, skilled persons start working in a department, the fear of the unknown change in team dynamics causes jealousy because there is the risk that the new person will drive up the standards within the department.

This is frightening to the keepers of the status quo. Employees who are targets of jealousy are often discredited, sabotaged and left out of communication loops. Non-jealous members of the team are sometimes forced to take the side of the jealous ones because they don't want the hateful behaviour to be directed at them.

### What can you do if you are the target of jealousy?

The root cause of jealousy is low self-esteem so there is virtually

nothing you can do to change the jealous people around you.

Self-esteem building and empowerment are personal responsibilities so your attempts to help the jealous person can backfire.

Instead, here are five options that are within your control:

Be selective with the information you share about yourself; it can be distorted by malicious intent.

Refuse to stoop to the same level as the jealous people around you.

Know that you have a right to choose healthy relationships and healthy work environments. Don't see yourself as stuck.

Jealousy can sometimes present itself as bullying so make a choice if you must.

Many people dumb down to minimise jealous attacks. This negatively affects you, your professional growth and your ability to enjoy your job because you are playing standards within the department.

Be who you are, jealous onlookers will see your light no matter what you do.

Don't be seduced by friendliness. Robert Green, author of "The 48 Laws of Power" states that one of the laws of power is to "pose as a friend and work as a spy", so beware of this type.

Another law is, "do not build fortresses to protect or isolate yourself – isolation is dangerous."

By falling into the isolation trap you will not be able to access useful information and consequently you can become an easy target.

### What can you do if you feel jealous?

If you are typically negatively affected by other people's perceived success, understand that you are experiencing emotions somewhere on the spectrum of fear and anger.

Once you identify your emotions, identify what your emotions are teaching you. Ask yourself why you are jealous or why you feel threatened by another person's talents or achievements.

Find your talents; you definitely have unique abilities, so cultivate your strengths by focusing on your strengths.

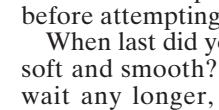
When you identify the personal belief systems that are causing you to feel jealous, take conscious steps to improve in the areas you feel are underdeveloped, and if this doesn't work for you, focus on your strengths.

Learn to see yourself as empowered and choose to reframe your thoughts so that you can see your personal potential clearly.

We all have different talents and proclivities, so focus on becoming the best at what you do and understand that everyone is different.

• Yvette Bethel is CEO of Organisational Soul, an human resources consulting and leadership development company. You can contact her at [www.orgsoul.com](http://www.orgsoul.com).

## Have you been sugared as yet?



BY KENYA MORTIMER-MCKENZIE

OF course you're curious as to what sugar I am alluding to.

Its called body sugaring, have you heard about it? Well not many persons have.

Body sugaring is an ancient Egyptian method of removing unwanted hair using a paste made with sugar as its main ingredient, along with lime and water for consistency.

This paste is then molded on to the skin a number of times, each time it is being molded it allows the sugar to seep down into the hair follicle, catching hair growth at a very early stage. This technique is absolutely amazing, at the same time very difficult to learn.

If not done properly, one can experience bruising, ingrown hair and unnecessary pain. That is why

one must be properly trained before attempting to sugar anyone.

When last did your skin feel baby soft and smooth? Well no need to wait any longer, you can experience it with body sugaring, you'll love it. If you're being waxed and want to know what's the difference, there isn't any comparison, it is far superior.

Why not consider advantages of body sugaring. They are as follows:

1. Pure and natural ingredients

The paste is so natural, you can eat it! That is far from true with wax.

2. It is not hot

Sugar paste is applied at body temperature, it will not burn you. Your own body temperature melts the sugar paste. Hot wax can cause burning and scarring. Overtime abuse to the underlying connective tissues can cause wrinkling, especially in the lip and brow areas.

3. It will not stick to the skin

Waxing damages the skin by adhering not only to dead skin cells, but also to live skin cells, but sugar can not. While removing the hair, the sugar exfoliates the dead skin cells, allowing ingrown hair to surface. This treatment again, unlike waxing is safe to perform on per-

sons with dry skin disorders, like eczema, and psoriasis. It can be applied over the same area several times without damage to the skin.

Wax cannot be applied several times in the same area.

4. It is easier to clean up

Sugar is water soluble; it can easily be cleaned off your skin with water. Unlike wax, you will never feel sticky after treatment.

5. It never dries

The sugar paste can be used over an entire area without ever having to get more.

6. It will not break as many hairs

The sugar paste as it is molded on to the skin, it wraps around the hair shaft making it pliable, seeping below the hair follicle and lubricating the hair to make the extraction easier with less discomfort.

7. It is more sanitary

Sugar does not cause bacteria; it is unable to breed in the jar. Sugar was used to heal wounds during the American Civil War to prevent

infection and promote healing.

8. Can extract very short hairs

With advanced sugaring technique, hair can be extracted as soon as one to two days after shaving.

However, it is recommended for optimum results to wait up to days after shaving.

Wax products requires at least two to three weeks of growth before treatment when a client is shaving.

9. It leads to permanency

Hair growth lessens after a number of treatments. The hair texture is more refined as it grows. When sugaring, hair is removed at a very early anagen phase of hair growth, which can lead to permanency. The results are far superior to waxing.

• For further information please contact Kenya Mortimer-Mckenzie, body sugaring expert at the Baha-Retreat Anti-Aging Spa at 323-6711 or 323-6715, e-mail [www.baharetreat.com](http://www.baharetreat.com).

## WOMAN

# A Bahamian Woman in Japan

## PART 4

For one year and three months I had the opportunity to live and work in Tokushima, Japan. I worked as an English Language Coordinator at Seiko Gakuen for children ages three to six. Join me each week as I explore the land of the rising sun from a Bahamian's perspective.



By COFFI MCPHEE

It was really funny. I was automatically respected as I was one of the only black people there at the reggae party. It was as if Bob Marley himself had entered the building.

At one point at the party they had the dancers come on stage to dance.

Apparently these girls go to Jamaica to learn the dances and then come back to show everyone. Don't get me wrong, they were good but they weren't doing anything that you wouldn't see at any party at home, I mean normal and jungalist Bahamians alike.

But man the jungalists at home would have put them to shame. Also Japanese girls aren't known for booty so when you see one doing the dutty whine in batty rider shorts

with a large chuck missing behind, it doesn't have the same effect. However, there was one who did whine on her head!

Lord knows that I can't do that.

**I am sorry, Miss Coffi**

There are fifth and sixth graders that every time they see me they would point, giggle and stare.

I forgave them the first time because apparently I am the first black person to work at Seiko in its 50-year existence. However, by the fourth time it got a little old because they are old enough to know better. So I approached them when they were doing it after school and told them to stop it, because it is not nice to do that to people.

A Japanese teacher was next to them so she translated for me.

After approaching them I forgot about it and went about my business.

However, later that evening apparently two of the Japanese teachers brought the students up to my apartment to personally apologise to me.

I was not at home but they left me a note which said:

"I am sorry. After this don't again the laughing and the surprised eye. Really sorry"

Maybe I had been a bit harsh, but it was Friday and I was tired, however, they got the point. I just hope after this they won't be afraid to look at black people again. They might be afraid to turn into stone.

**Customer service**

My foreign friends and I went to a restaurant one day and as is the custom in our countries, we left a tip for the waitress because she was just fantastic with us.

We were about halfway down the

block when the same waitress came

running after us because she thought that we forgot our money. Apparently tipping in Japan is a no-no, seeing as wonderful service is expected. They wait on you hand and foot, escort you out of the shop when you buy something but don't follow you around the store when you are just looking.

I brought something out of a store the other day but I went back inside

because I wanted to see if they had something else. They didn't have

it so I showed the sales person my bag with what I had brought earlier so she could see I wasn't trying to

steal anything.

That woman looked at me as if I had two heads. She wanted to know if what I brought was ok, was I bringing it back for some reason, yada yada. The thought of me reusing the bag to steal something else never even occurred to her.

*"Travel is more than the seeing of sights; it is a change that goes on, deep and permanent, in the ideas of the living."*

- St Augustine

**RANDOM FACTS ABOUT JAPAN**

- Japan is 70 per cent mountains
- Japan is made up of over 6,000 islands
- Japanese people eat squid, octopus, eel, all fish, crabs, prawns, etc.
- A traditional Japanese breakfast consists of rice topped with natto (fermented soy beans)
- The Japanese say that the Chinese will eat anything
- In Japanese, the word for "wrong" and "different" are the same
- In Japan, the teachers move from class to class and the students stay in one room.



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# THE WEATHER REPORT



INSURANCE MANAGEMENT  
(BAHAMAS) LIMITED  
INSURANCE BROKERS & AGENTS

**UV INDEX TODAY**

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11*
LOW	MODERATE	HIGH	VERY HIGH	EXT.							

The higher the AccuWeather UV Index® number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

**TIDES FOR NASSAU**

	High	Hi. (ft.)	Low	Lo. (ft.)
Today	12:13 a.m.	2.6	6:22 a.m.	0.1
				7:59 p.m.
Wednesday	1:17 a.m.	2.7	7:31 a.m.	0.3
	1:33 p.m.	2.6	7:59 p.m.	0.1
Thursday	2:21 a.m.	2.7	8:40 a.m.	0.3
	2:35 p.m.	2.5	8:59 p.m.	0.1
Friday	3:22 a.m.	2.8	9:46 a.m.	0.3
	3:35 p.m.	2.4	9:59 p.m.	0.1
Saturday	4:19 a.m.	2.9	10:47 a.m.	0.1
	4:32 p.m.	2.3	10:59 p.m.	0.3
Sunday	5:11 a.m.	2.9	11:41 a.m.	0.1
	5:24 p.m.	2.2	11:59 p.m.	0.3
Monday	5:59 a.m.	3.0	12:30 p.m.	0.0
	6:12 p.m.	2.2		

**ALMANAC**

Statistics are for Nassau through 1 p.m. yesterday

Temperature	88° F/31° C
High	73° F/23° C
Low	68° F/20° C
Norm. high	80° F/27° C
Norm. low	68° F/20° C
Last year's high	79° F/26° C
Last year's low	68° F/20° C

Precipitation

As of 1 a.m., yesterday

Year to date

Normal year to date

Normal year to date

trace

33.37

49.86

&lt;p