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FEATURES



Miss Universe comes to NAGB

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CARS FOR SALE, HELP WANTED AND REAL ESTATE



BAHAMAS BIGGEST

SPORTS

Mackey gets No.24 WBC ranking



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Davis announces bid for PLP deputy

MP vows to fight corruption and violent crime

By **PAUL G TURNQUEST**
Tribune Staff Reporter
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PHILIP 'BRAVE' DAVIS

VOWING to fight corruption in politics and the plague of violent crime on the streets, PLP MP for Cat Island, Rum Cay and San Salvador Philip "Brave" Davis formally announced his bid to run for the deputy leadership of the PLP at a show of force press conference yesterday.

Surrounded by friends, family, and supporters, including Member of Parliament for Fox Hill Fred Mitchell, Senator Allyson Maynard-Gibson, former party chairman Raynard Rigby, Damien Gomez, Ryan Pinder, and former Minister of Immigration Loftus Roker, Mr Davis challenged Bahamians to be "brave" with him and "change the Bahamas."

"Today, I am announcing my candidacy for deputy leader of the PLP because I,

like many other Bahamians, am not happy with the direction in which our country is headed and I am absolutely committed to working with you to change the Bahamas.

"Ladies and gentlemen, my personal story of success should be more common. But the government is letting us down. Crime and unemployment is rising, but the government is offering the same old, failed ideas.

"I have a new vision with new solutions. We need to look ahead and create jobs of the future, not rely on the same traditional Bahamian economic model. We need to fight crime by investing in the latest technology and teaching our police the latest techniques — in addition to toughening penalties for criminals. And we need to fight corruption by empowering a new independent ombudsman to investigate and prosecute

SEE page 12

Man's body is found riddled with bullets

32-year-old is the 49th murder victim of the year

A MAN's body riddled with bullets was found in the early hours of yesterday in the backseat of a car. The victim is 32-year-old Christopher Edwin Pratt from Abaco. He is the country's 49th and Grand Bahama's seventh murder victim for the year. Police made the gruesome discovery while they were on routine patrol in east Freeport at around 12.15am. They found the victim in the backseat of a gold coloured Chevrolet Malibu, which was parked in bushes off Lindsell Drive, a sparsely populated area just east of Casuarina Bridge.

So far police have only said the victim's body had sustained multiple gunshot wounds. The body was later transported to the morgue at the Rand Memorial Hospital. Investigations are still in the initial stages and a motive for the killing has not yet been established.

Officers of the Central Detective Unit are handling the investigation and persons with any information concerning this latest homicide are asked to contact the police as soon as possible.

FLYING THE FLAGS



FLAGS OF THE 84 different countries taking part in this month's Miss Universe pageant are lining both Paradise Island bridges ahead of the event.

Tim Clarke/Tribune staff

Melvin Maycock Sr bail application is refused

By **NATARIO MCKENZIE**
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SUPREME Court Justice Jon Isaacs refused a bail application by alleged drug lord Melvin Maycock Sr, but agreed to an application for an order to improve the conditions of his detention at Her Majesty's Prison.

Lawyer Roger Gomez Jr argued yesterday that Maycock Sr has been in custody over a year and that the maximum penalty for the escape charge he is currently standing trial for in Magistrate's Court is only one year.

Maycock, 43, is accused of escaping from a holding cell at the Elizabeth Estates Police Station in February 2008 by switching places with his son Melvin Maycock Jr. Maycock Sr was captured four months later following a high speed chase. US prosecutors requested Maycock's extradition in June 2004 on allegations that he is the mastermind of the Caribbean arm of a multinational drug gang. Thirteen other men, including Melvin Maycock Jr who are charged in the same indictment as Maycock Sr, were freed on bail in 2006.

Mr Gomez said that Maycock Sr was willing to surrender his travel documents and sign in at a

SEE page 12

Slow initial ticket sales for Miss Universe

By **TANEKA THOMPSON**
Tribune Staff Reporter
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DESPITE a massive media blitz, initial ticket sales for the Miss Universe pageant have been slow with tourism officials blaming the lagging sales on plain old procrastination.

But the Ministry of Tourism (MOT) anticipates an uptake in ticket purchases as the activities draw nearer.

"I understand the ticket sales are starting to pick up. We're last minute people, and so I think they're going to pick up now because the (ticketed) events begin next week," said Janet Johnson, director for onshore communications for the Ministry.

When asked if she felt the prices — ranging from \$50 to \$1,000 — may have scared potential customers away, Ms Johnson said "yes" but reasoned the fees are well worth it for the "world-class" event.

SEE page 12

29-year-old charged with murder of man found in street

A MAN questioned by police after a man was found dead in the middle of a street in the Grove was arraigned in Magistrate's Court yesterday.

Police have charged Marco Macintosh, 29, of Bahama Avenue, with the murder of Kendall Hamilton. Mr Hamilton was the country's 46th homicide victim for the year.

According to reports, police received a call around 6.45am last Thursday about an injured man lying on Poinciana Avenue near 2nd Street in the Grove. When officers arrived, they found Mr Hamilton dead with a wound to the head.

Macintosh, who is represented by attorney Murrio Ducille, was not required to enter a plea to the murder charge during his arraignment before Deputy Chief Magistrate Carolita Bethel in Court 8, Bank Lane yesterday.

He was remanded to Her Majesty's Prison yesterday. The case was adjourned to August 18 for fixture and transferred to Court 11, Nassau Street.

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PRICES MAY VARY

Claims of inhumane treatment during Immigration raid

Sources say families were torn apart

By MEGAN REYNOLDS
Tribune Staff Reporter
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THE Abaco community has been left reeling following an Immigration raid in three Haitian settlements in which people were treated "inhumanely" and families were torn apart, sources say.

Witnesses of the dawn raids at the North Abaco settlements of the Mud and Pigeon Pea in Marsh Harbour, as well as Sandbanks, near Treasure Cay, claim authorities broke down doors, dragged women and



RELATIVES OF THOSE detained in the raids gather outside of the local Immigration office last week.

men from their homes while barely dressed, and ordered children out of their beds between 4am and 5am on

Thursday, according to a *Tribune* source in Marsh Harbour.

The Haitian-Bahamian families who have lived in the settlements for decades said they have been left angry and upset, and are now unwilling to assist the Immigration Department in future.

They claim several of the 165 suspected illegals detained are in the country legally and have work permits but were not able to produce them during the raid.

A source in Marsh Harbour said: "Many people don't keep their papers in their homes because the houses are packed together so tightly in there, if they have a fire it will destroy



THE MUD in North Abaco was one of the settlements raided.

Photos: DAVID RALPH/Abaconian

any number of houses, so they give them to their employers and have a copy at the house.

"But I have heard officers wouldn't accept the copies in the raid and they even tore up some of them."

Haitian-Bahamian Luzena Dumercy said a woman was dragged through the dirt when she resisted authorities, and children were taken from their beds.

She added: "They treat these people like animals and they come hunt them down like criminals with their big guns.

"They choke them, run after them, beat them up and a few persons have broken bones and stuff.

"This is inhumane, the way they do this, and these people are not treated with decency.

"Some of them are your family, and you may be biased, but we would respect them more if they did their job with some decency."

Chief Immigration officer Peter Joseph led 30 Immigration Department officers, 20 police officers and 50 officers from the Royal Bahamas Defence Force in the raids. He said his team did not meet any resistance

as people remained "relatively calm".

And *The Tribune* had not received a response to the allegations from Immigration director Jack Thompson before press time.

Thousands of Haitians and Bahamians of Haitian descent live in the three settlements, the largest Haitian settlements in the country, and as housing, electricity and water supply is not regulated in the communities, the health and safety of residents is at risk.

Detained

A Bahamian-born woman whose father moved to Marsh Harbour from Haiti in the 1960s said her father was detained in the raid because he has not been granted residency after around 50 years in the country.

She was formerly willing to help authorities stem the influx of illegal immigrants from Haiti, but after the raid she said she feels less inclined.

A source said: "She doesn't feel like helping (officials) now because it has upset all the Haitians.

"There are a number of Haitians who are here legally and they don't want to

see the new immigrants come in either, they want to help the department, but now, since the raid, they feel differently. They are angry."

The source said witnesses of the raid have been consistent in their reports, adding: "They have all said the officers broke down doors, kicked in things, dragged people out of houses when women were not dressed properly, and they took people off without letting them get their documents. It just wasn't done in a humane way and we haven't heard from anyone responsible to say they did it right.

"I used to think raids were a good thing, but I have changed my mind because it breaks up families.

"I just don't think this is right. These are people who have helped build our economy and then they turn around and do this to them.

"Immigration is a very serious problem but it needs to be dealt with slowly, gently, and in co-operation with the Haitian community.

"They are human beings, just because they were born in a country that's poverty ridden doesn't mean they are any less human."

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Rt. Hon. Hubert A. Ingraham



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Gaming Board for the Commonwealth of The Bahamas is charged with the regulatory oversight of the Gaming Industry in the country;

AND WHEREAS, the Gaming Board is committed to ensuring that all casino gaming activities in the Commonwealth of The Bahamas are conducted with integrity and in a fair, honourable, and ethical manner in accordance with the Gaming and Lotteries Act and Regulations;

AND WHEREAS, the Gaming Board provides proper screening for companies and individuals alike wishing to partake in the Gaming Industry in The Bahamas;

AND WHEREAS, in recognizing that there is a need for the proper regulation and oversight of this significant complementary component to our valued Tourism Industry, the Gaming Board continues to provide the needed assistance and support to the casino management in their daily operations;

AND WHEREAS, the Gaming Board, which was established over forty years ago, has set aside a month to highlight the significance of its various activities to protect the integrity of the Gaming Industry;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Hubert A. Ingraham, Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, do hereby proclaim the month of August 2009 as "**Gaming Board Month.**"

IN WITNESS WHEREOF,
I have hereunto set my
Hand and Seal this 19th.
day of June, 2009

HUBERT A. INGRAHAM
PRIME MINISTER

LOCAL NEWS

In brief

Man in court accused of sex with girl under 14

A 20-YEAR-OLD man accused of having sex with a girl under the age of 14 was arraigned in Magistrates Court yesterday.

Alfredo Johnson, of Pine Barren Road, was not required to enter a plea to the charge during his arraignment before Magistrate Ancella Williams in Court 6, Parliament Street, yesterday.

It is alleged that Johnson committed the offence between May 2009 and Wednesday, July 29.

Johnson was granted bail in the sum of \$10,000 with two sureties.

He was also ordered not to have any contact with the teenage girl.

The case has been adjourned to November, which is when a preliminary inquiry is expected to begin.

All 84 Miss Universe contestants have arrived in Bahamas

THE 84 Miss Universe 2009 contestants have all arrived in the Bahamas and will today participate in the first official activities on their almost month-long schedule.

The beauty queens will visit Ardastra Gardens, famed for its beautiful pink flamingo display.

They also will be treated to tours of Fort Charlotte and the historic Clifton Heritage Site and Sacred Space.

A visit to Arawak Cay and the dock boardwalk at Sandals are also planned.

The Miss Universe contestants will spend three weeks in the Bahamas. During that time they will visit Abaco, Bimini, Eleuthera and Grand Bahama.

Police return after interviewing daughter of murder victim in US

By TANEKA THOMPSON
Tribune Staff Reporter
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LOCAL police are still compiling evidence that will determine whether or not they have sufficient

Evidence being compiled ahead of extradition decision

cause to extradite the teenage daughter of slain American Anna Garrison.

A team of Royal Bahamas Police Force (RBPF) officers travelled

to Pennsylvania last week to question the 16-year-old girl in connection with her mother's murder.

The team has now returned to the capital, but yesterday Assistant Commissioner of Crime Raymond Gibson declined to disclose what investigators gleaned from the teenager's interrogation.

"There is a process we must go through for us to have her brought back to the Bahamas.

"She is a suspect in the matter and there is a process we must go through to get her back in the Bahamas and we are working on that," said Mr Gibson.

"At some point she may (be extradited)— if there is sufficient evidence to bring her back, if we deem that there is sufficient evidence to extradite her, then we will make that request," he said, adding that girl was not under arrest.

Up to press time, a formal request had not been made for the teenager's extradition, said Mr Gibson.

Ms Garrison's badly decomposed body was discovered by a passerby in a bushy area off Fox Hill Road south, near the Blue Water Cay development, on Saturday, July 4.

Her body was hidden by bed-sheets and her feet were wrapped in plastic bags.

Charged

Zyndall McKinney, 22, of Isabella Boulevard, was charged with intentionally causing Ms Garrison's death between Sunday, February 25, and Saturday, July 4, 2009, while being concerned with another.

Ms Garrison, 33, of West Palm Beach, first came to the police's attention on February 25 when they received a missing person report from the United States Embassy in Nassau.

She had last been in the US sometime in January and in February police were told that she may have been in the Bahamas in the company of a Bahamian man.



THE BOYS were dirty and dehydrated when they were picked up.

Andros boys' mother no longer believes they were kidnaped

THE mother of two boys who disappeared from their grandmother's home in South Andros for over a month said yesterday that she no longer believes her sons were kidnaped.

Vera Clarke-Silverin, of Kemp Road, Nassau, said she now believes the story her sons have told her — that they survived in the Andros forest on their own for 33 days and nights.

Deangelo Clarke, nine, and Marcell Clarke Silverin, six, had gone out to look for crabs at around 5.30pm on June 9, and were not seen again until they emerged from the woods around a mile south of their grandmother's house in Smith's Hill, South Andros, nearly five weeks later.

The boys were dirty and dehydrated when they were picked up at the roadside by a family friend just before noon on Sunday, July 12. They told their parents they got lost in the woods when looking for crabs and could not find their way home.

Deangelo told his mother they slept in the shelter of a hole, ate pigeon plums, and drank water from holes and a stream.

Many sceptics refuse to accept the story and

say the boys would not have been able to survive on pigeon plums as they are out of season, and that if they had been in the woods they would have been found during the wide search of the island which was assisted by the police K-9 dog unit and Defence Force officers.

Theories that the boys were kidnaped by drug dealers after a drug deal went wrong circulated in South Andros and New Providence.

But speaking on the ZNS talk show Immediate Response yesterday, their mother said: "They told me they were living in a hole, a shelter, and during the day Deangelo would get out to get pigeon plums to feed Marcell.

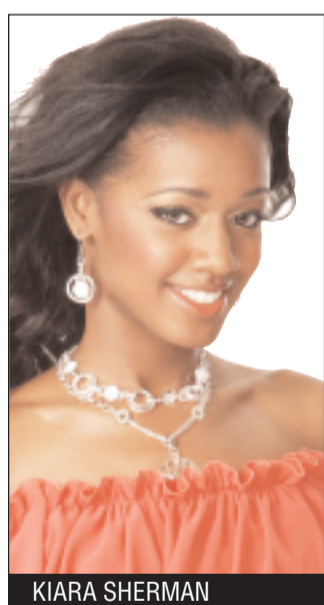
"I don't think anybody had them, I don't think anyone had anything to do with them."

Mrs Clarke-Silverin said the children, who lost around 30lbs each during the time they were missing, are gaining weight and recovering in hospital.

She does not know yet when they will be released, but it is expected they will be well enough to return to school in September.

Marcell will go into grade two of Uriah McPhee school and Deangelo will return to Deep Creek Primary School in South Andros where he lives with his grandmother.

Miss Bahamas Universe reportedly a 'no-show'



MISS Bahamas Universe Kiara Sherman was reportedly a "no-show" over the weekend as contestants of the prestigious pageant arrived at the Lynden Pindling International Airport.

On Saturday and Sunday, 84 contestants from around the world arrived at the capital's airport where they were welcomed to the country ahead of the highly anticipated Miss Universe 2009 pageant later this month.

The beauty queens were entertained with junkanoo rhythms as they landed on Bahamian soil, but some

on site questioned why the host country's representative was not there to meet and greet the delegates.

"At one point Miss Jamaica joked that she felt like the host queen because she was busy talking to the girls," said a source who was at the airport over the weekend.

Ministry of Tourism officials had hoped Ms Sherman - who was crowned in May - would have attended the events. But according to a source at the ministry, the Bahamian beauty queen was busy preparing for the pageant.

"We were hoping that

she would have been there to greet the girls," said the source. "But I guess she was working on becoming pageant-ready."

For the next two weeks, Miss Sherman and the other 83 contestants will be busy with a series of events and public appearances leading up to the final show and coronation ball at the Atlantis resort on August 23.

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EDITORIAL/LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Bay Street differences noted

IN THIS column yesterday we described our walk up and down Bay Street — from The Tribune's Shirley Street office to the British Colonial Hilton and back again to see for ourselves what Miss Universe pageant participants will see on their planned downtown walk-about.

The contrast between the two ends of Bay Street — east and west — recalled our entry into Budapest through that ancient city's back streets about two years ago.

We had heard so much about the magnificence of Budapest, the capital of Hungary, and of Prague, capital of the Czech Republic, that we decided to visit both after our brief stay in Vienna. However, instead of going to Budapest by plane we went by car, which meant that we entered the old city through its back door — not the usual tourist drive from the airport. What a shock it was. It was like a horror movie. To think we had left one of Austria's cultural centres for this dump was indeed a let down. Budapest showed all the scars of World War II and the later Russian occupation. It was dirty, rundown and depressed. We complain of graffiti here in Nassau, but we had never seen so much of it until we entered Budapest. From top to bottom every building was covered in graffiti. It looked as though the very soul had been beaten out of this city and its people.

As we were debating bypassing Budapest and moving onto Prague, we crested a hill and spread out below was a most magnificent sight. One of the most beautiful cities of Europe with the ancient city of Buda on the right bank of the River Danube and Pest on its left bank. The secrets of the dirty back streets were quickly forgotten as we indulged ourselves in the culture of a breathtakingly lovely city.

The difference between the east end of Bay Street with more shops shuttered and abandoned than doing business, and the spruced up western half of the town's main street is not as dramatic as Budapest, but for New Providence it is still a contrast. One end of the main shopping thoroughfare depressed, while the other end is making a brave attempt to stay alive — and it shows.

Yesterday, we remarked on an old building that for years has been an embarrassment to Bay Street — its paint peeling and covered in graffiti. We said that it was a part of the former Imperial Lighthouse property. This is incorrect. The Imperial Lighthouse building — now demolished — was further to the east. At one time the ground floor of this old building was one of Austin Levy's milk stands. The Fifty-two Miles, one of Mr Levy's boats that brought the produce from his Hatchet Bay farms in Alice Town, Eleuthera, was moored at the back.

About three years ago one of the government ministries — possibly the Ministry of

Works — published a notice in The Tribune ordering the current owner of the building to either demolish it or refurbish it. Apparently the owner, who had wanted permission to tear it down, was delighted that at last government had issued an order. However, before he could carry out the demolition order, he got another call from a government official telling him to "hang on." He heard no more. He has been hanging on ever since, until this weekend when something had to be done to force the old building into some semblance of respectability. The old paint was peeled off revealing attractive cut white stone beneath, the balconies are being repaired and painted white. But as soon as the beauty queens have left a decision should be made on this building.

During our walk, a comment from a taxi driver brought home how much our people have changed in the past half century.

As we wrote in this column yesterday Bay Street was completely deserted, except for three taxi drivers who we met at different points of our walk, desperately looking for business.

To each one, when asked if we wanted a taxi, we gave the same answer — "No thanks, we're just out exercising shanks's pony!" Each of them looked at us as though we had bats in the belfry — which we probably have. "Uh, what's dat?" asked one with a worried look on his face.

Half a century ago "shanks's pony" was for many the only means of transport. We remember the Fox Hill women, farm produce in baskets on their heads, walking briskly to downtown Bay Street to sell their produce in the market. Daily "shanks's pony" was their only means of transport to and from town.

Each day children walked miles to school, and unless someone gave them a lift in a car, shanks's pony was their only means of getting there.

During the war when there was gas rationing, the children of our family saddled up their horses, or took out their bicycles to get wherever they were going.

However, our mother always reminded us that shanks's pony was always the most reliable means of transport. "That's what God gave you legs for," she often said as she encouraged us to use them.

Today, no one has heard about the old shank, because parents drive their children to school in cars and themselves to work either by car or hopping onto a bus.

Now that shanks's pony has been retired from daily life and even from the vocabulary, many Bahamians are having an uphill battle with the bulge and all the health problems that go with it — high blood pressure, diabetes, hypertension and the list goes on.

The Bahamas has come a long way, but it has lost much in the coming.

Stop this madness and share the land

EDITOR, The Tribune.

I have been wondering how best to quell the big hullabaloo about Crown land. There have been questions about who has some, who got too much, who used their influence and who profited from our Crown land, the Bahamian people's land.

We must all come to appreciate that this land does not belong to the government, the opposition, the politically affluent, the church or the civic groups. The Crown belongs to the people and they should all have a say in how it is distributed and who gets it. It is highly presumptuous for anyone, I mean anyone individually or any group to be given the authority to act on my behalf to distribute what in fact belongs to all of us, without our permission.

There are enough examples to prove that the very wealthy cannot be satisfied. Mr. Ingraham exposed why the playing field must be levelled. He painstakingly exposed how in the past, high powered political figures capitalized on their position and gave themselves acres and their wives more acres. Now we understand what "All for me baby, all for me" really means. It must have meant, in this case, the unquenchable thirst for more land.

The greed displayed where millionaires still want more is sickening to put it mildly. Many of the names are people who have benefited from the fat of the land while blocking others from progressing. God knows that this is not right.

The opposition made a great deal about the most recent incident at Lands and Survey reference Crown land.

Who's Haitian, who's Bahamian, who cares?

EDITOR, The Tribune.

"My Haitian been working for me from dat time!" Have you ever been guilty of using such language or overheard someone else using it? It must now be brought to light that this is not acceptable and that those who stand by and permit such verbal degradation are equally at fault. In 1833, a little piece of legislation called the Emancipation Act was passed putting an end to slavery making the own-

LETTERS

letters@tribunemedia.net

But the parliamentarians did not mention that their family and I dare say parents were equally as guilty of doing the same. How hypocritical. They have no shame.

My suggestion not only to keep everyone quiet and satisfied but to be fair, is to share the 2.5 million acres evenly among all "full blooded Bahamians" except the families who have already gotten theirs, and that would be the end of the story. The only drawback is that no one could sell anything and cannot mortgage it.

The land could only be willed to children, which means that the land remains in the families forever.

If the government would not divide all of the land, then give each Bahamian 5 acres and keep the remainder for other use like expanding the government buildings and otherwise. There is enough land to go around.

This practice of applying for Crown land and being turned down because someone in the room does not like the person for their own selfish and personal reason is ludicrous. It is sickening watching the same people getting everything they want and the people over the hill in particular get nothing. How long should we have to endure this practice?

The practice of distribution of Crown land must be done in "broad daylight". We sat idly by while a foreigner was in the highest position of the distribution process. The

question is did he help other foreigners benefit from Crown land? Does any foreign resident who got Crown land have now planned to build a subdivision with the land? The Bahamian people must know all of the facts.

If the whole business of Crown land is being debated, then the true story must be made public first. The Bahamian people must know that people who were not born in the Bahamas have large plots of land especially on Carmichael Road and they do not intend to build dwelling homes on the property either.

Land is something that has caused families to be at war. Land has caused friends to sever relationships. Land has caused business partners to be at each other's throats. Therefore I am simply advocating sharing the land. I call on all Bahamians to join in to let our voices be heard. "This land is my land; this land is your land. This land was made for you and me."

Finally, tell your member of parliament that you want your piece of the rock. You want your land that is rightfully yours. Never mind the lawyers putting a legal spin on things. Insist on them giving you what belongs to you.

I simply speak for the frightened, the weak, the uneducated, the poor, the dispossessed, and the downtrodden.

I fear no human beings; as long as they put on their pants the same way as I do, they can do me nothing.

My fear of Jesus Christ is what propels me to speak out for all Bahamians.

IVOINE INGRAHAM
Nassau,
July, 2009.

ership of any human illegal. This being the case, how can one have his or her Haitian? Why would he or she want to?

It is incredibly ironic that a nation built on the blood and sweat of former slaves finds it so difficult to have compassion for others in such a desperate state that they would risk their lives to get here then humble themselves to take on the lowliest form of occupation just to survive.

They subjected themselves to verbal abuse, mistreatment, and disrespect not because they lacked pride, but like our ancestors of the 19th century, they simply had no choice.

The year is 2009 and Bahamians must accept the fact that culture is an evolutionary phenomenon that is never stagnant but instead is ever changing.

We say that we find it so difficult to sympathise with Haitian nationals here because we feel that they are simply too aggressive and want to take over.

But if you were to once again in your mind switch

places, wouldn't you be a bit aggressive after years of being treated as a lesser individual?

So which came first, the chicken or the egg?

Are we as Bahamians supposed to treat our Haitian counterparts with more dignity and they in turn will find it easier to tone down their "aggressiveness", or should we wait on them to humble themselves even further to the point where we no longer consider them aggressive which will in turn make it easier for us to find compassion in our Christian hearts?

In my opinion, the ball is in our court and we need to take steps and raise awareness of the cultural evolution that is taking place.

It is not something that can be stopped so it must at least, be accepted and hopefully, in time embraced because whether we like it or not, the Haitian presence here will always be a strong and influential one.

ROLLE
Nassau,
June, 2009.

Department of Agriculture should top the list for house cleaning

EDITOR, The Tribune.

This is an open letter to the Prime Minister
Dear sir,

In all your God-given wisdom you have begun a long overdue purge of the Public Service. The Police, Customs, Immigration, Youth and Sports, etc.

Sir, farmers and members of the agricultural community are crying out for you to now do the same with the Department of Agriculture.

For nearly 20 years the administration in this department has been an albatross and hindrance to agricultural development. The Department of Agriculture should now be top of the list for house cleaning.

This administration should be banished to the nearest cay, then made to farm using slash and burn with no technical assistance — similar to the services offered by this God-forsaken department.

G HANNA
FARMER
Nassau,
July, 2009.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that DEJA SIFFRARD of MARSH HARBOUR, P.O. BOX AB-20554, ABACO, 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 5th day of AUGUST 2009 to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, P.O.Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

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LOCAL NEWS

In brief

Man fined \$2,500 for cocaine possession

A 21-YEAR-OLD man pleaded guilty to a cocaine possession charge Friday and was fined \$2,500 by a local magistrate. Trevor Emmanuel Ambrister of Fox Hill Road pleaded guilty to possession of cocaine with intent to supply during his arraignment before Magistrate Carolita Bethel in Court 8, Bank Lane. It is alleged that on July 29, Ambrister was found in possession of three grams of cocaine. If Ambrister fails to pay the fine he will have to serve a year in jail.

Drug seizure in Freeport

A JOINT operation between Bahamian and American authorities over the weekend resulted in a major drug seizure at the Freeport Container Port. Officers from the Bahamas' Customs Department, the Drug Enforcement Unit (DEU), the US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the port's security personnel were part of the operation on Sunday at 1.45pm which led to the discovery of a black bag containing 71 lbs of suspected cocaine in a 20ft container. No arrests have been made so far.

Arawak Cay vendors 'up in arms' over burst water pipe

ARAWAK Cay vendors were reportedly up in arms on Monday after workers accidentally burst a nearby water pipe, cutting service to the busy dining and social hot spot until late yesterday morning.

The pipe was struck by a tractor working in the area at around 4.15pm, with immediate consequences for vendors and their customers.

According to social activist and leader of the Workers' Party Rodney Moncur, who witnessed the aftermath of the incident, several restaurants were left completely without running water while many others experienced a severe drop in pressure.

"Thousand of people were stuck without a bathroom," he said, adding that this eventually led to people relieving themselves outside restaurants – a spectacle witnessed by a number of tourists.

"It caused a lot of inconvenience; it was horrible," Mr Moncur said.

And because the accident happened on a public holiday, no one could be found to address the problem, so the pipe contin-



PHOTOS: RODNEY MONCUR

WORKERS look on at the pipe which was burst yesterday.

ued to spew water – wasting hundreds and possibly thousands of gallons – until 11am yesterday, other sources confirmed.

According to Mr Moncur, employees of Boskalis, a Nether-

lands company hired by the government for its ongoing harbour dredging exercise, were involved in the incident.

He said he was surprised that a company so known for its exper-

tise did not have equipment capable of detecting the presence of underground water lines.

He also questioned why there was no representative of the Water and Sewerage Corporation on hand at the time of the accident.

"It was irresponsible of the government to have a foreign

company doing this kind of work, without a government representative present," Mr Moncur said.

A representative of Boskalis refused to confirm or deny that its workers were involved in the accident.

He said *The Tribune* would have to speak to Robert Garraway at the Ministry of Works, however Mr Garraway could not be contacted up to press time last night.

Jamaica takes action to improve food security

By ALISON LOWE
Tribune Staff Reporter
alowe@tribunemedia.net

CLARENDON, Jamaica — Action to improve the country's food security saw Jamaica reduce its food imports in 2008 by more than a quarter over the previous year, the country's Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries revealed Saturday.

Meanwhile, in 2009 the produce output from the farming sector is again increasing, causing technocrats to posit that, with the support of the government, the agricultural sector will double its contribution to Jamaican Gross Domestic Product within the next two years.

Christopher Tufton MP made this known as he called on CARICOM nations to make agriculture a "priority" issue on their agendas, claiming that so far many have not done enough to support and develop their agricultural sector and the economic opportunities it can offer for participants.

Also Chairman of the Group of Agricultural Ministers in Caricom, Mr Tufton was speaking at the three-day Denbigh Agricultural and Industrial Show in Clarendon, Jamaica on Saturday, which was attended by a representative from the Bahamas Agricultural and Industrial Corporation.

The Bahamas presently spends around \$500 million a year on food imports. Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham suggested in February that the Bahamian agricultural sector, which is currently only operating at "ten per cent of its potential" must be "re-tooled and re-evaluated" so it can be fully exploited and this figure can be reduced.

Noting that the global financial crisis has stirred Caribbean governments to place more emphasis on the sector — Prime Minister Bruce Golding told the Denbigh crowd it was a "rude awakening" for Jamaica in this regard — Mr Tufton urged that it must not be allowed to slip off the agenda when a recovery comes about.

For too long in Jamaican and in the region agriculture has been "treated as the bastard child of the economy," said Tufton, despite being the "main stabilising force of countries in the region."

For agriculture to succeed it must be systematically advanced at a policy level by governments as well as "at the level of operations," he urged.

Unlike the Bahamas, where only around 0.6 per cent of the population makes a living from farming, the agricultural sector in Jamaica already employs more people than any other sector.

A livelihood is made directly from it by 226,000, or 8.1 per cent of the population, and one million are estimated to indirectly attain sustenance from it. At present, it contributes 5.7 per cent to the country's Gross Domestic Product.

The present administration, under Prime Minister Bruce Golding and his Jamaica Labour Party, has been credited with placing renewed emphasis on the industry and taking steps to build capacity among existing farmers, bringing in new practitioners and technology, with the intention of increasing agricultural production.

Speaking on Sunday at Denbigh, President of Guyana Bharat

Jagdeo, an agricultural advocate in Caricom, said that Jamaica is "ahead of the curve" in the region in doing what is necessary to address factors that are holding back the sector from achieving its full potential.

While last year's hurricanes, in particular Hurricane Gustav, caused major damage to crops and infrastructure, Mr Tufton used his address to congratulate farmers for responding to the call to — a response which ultimately saw Jamaica not only recover from the storms but saw impressive growth in the sector in the last nine months.

According to Tufton, the quarter ending December 2008 saw agricultural output increase over the last quarter by 16 per cent, the following quarter then saw output increase again by 19 per cent, and in the last quarter ending June 2009, total agricultural output was up again by an impressive 22 per cent on the previous quarter's gains, representing a 57 per cent gain in total.

"I would like to recognise and commend Jamaica's farmers for meeting the local and international needs for Jamaican produce. It shows we can do it if we set our minds to it; if we work together, encouraging farmers to produce and consumers to look at what we produce," said Mr Tufton.

The crops that saw the most significant reductions in imports were carrots (down 29 per cent



LIVESTOCK are displayed at a parade at the Denbigh Agricultural Show in Jamaica. Present during the showing were Jamaican Prime Minister Bruce Golding (wearing khaki trousers and a blue shirt); Jamaica's Minister of Transport and MP for Clarendon Mike Henry (wearing a hat), chairman of the Group of Agricultural Ministers in CARICOM Christopher Tufton (in a blue checkered shirt)

in 2008 over 2007), tomatoes (down 35 per cent), cabbage (25 per cent) and sweet peppers (down 23 per cent). Meanwhile, pork imports also fell by 60 per cent in 2008, evidencing the improved capability of the pork industry in Jamaica.

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Port relocation controversy has become a raucous brawl

THE debate over the port relocation, the harbour dredging and the future of Saunders Beach gradually ratcheted into a controversy and has now become a raucous brawl.

Prime Minister Ingraham says the government can't afford to concentrate on repeatedly refuting inaccuracies. It has to get on with the job of running the country in some of the most difficult times of the past half century.

There is some truth to this. In fact, it brings to mind Winston Churchill's remark that a government can't be always feeling its pulse and taking its temperature: "A politician with his ear to the ground must inevitably have his bottom in the air."

Obviously, this is a vulnerable and undignified position for any leader — one that also leaves him open to a charge of demagoguery. And for much of his political career, Churchill was regarded as a cynical opportunist by his peers.

But there is another side to this coin.

And that is that we, the people, are entitled to information about what our government is doing or planning. Ostensibly, that's why Bahamas Information Services gets \$2.3 million a year to employ a bevy of broadcasters, writers and photographers. It's also why both political parties talk endlessly about freedom of information and transparency.

Until recently, the debate over Arawak Cay was severely constrained by a lack of information. The purported developers seemed to be under a gag order and there was no comprehensive information coming from the government.

One senior minister told



me this was because an agreement had not been concluded, so there was nothing to discuss. Another indicated an agreement was more or less a reality and only waiting on the PM's final sign-off. Both should have known that the port relocation would be a major hot button issue.

That's because the opposition PLP saw an opportunity to exploit the doubts and fears of the uninformed, with the goal of creating a major political distraction that could harness the support of those all-important swing voters — you know, the same folks who were galvanised in 2002 by the campaign to save Clifton.

Attack

So it was inevitable that the usual political operatives would slap together a makeshift popular front to attack the port relocation initiative by any means available — from environmental scare tactics and political disinformation, to entirely legitimate demands for public disclosure.

Their task has been made much easier by technology. We live in a time where the message can be distilled and performed theatre-style in a hastily organised town meeting. And in addition to being broadcast over radio and TV, that same message can be accessed online at any time.

A buffet of issues has been bundled together by

the so-called Committee to Protect and Preserve The Bahamas for Future Generations (led by PLP Senator Jerome Fitzgerald), in an effort to paint the container port move to Arawak Cay as a sinister plot.

They include traffic congestion, access to beaches, property values, environmental impacts and racial division.

For example, the current roadworks at Saunders Beach is part of the New Providence Transport Programme, funded to the tune of \$100 million by the Inter-American Development Bank.

This project to widen 10 existing roads, build nine new roads and upgrade five major intersections dates back to the late 1990s.

Identification of the rights of way for the project was completed almost a decade ago and the compulsory acquisition of 446 pieces of land began in 2004. Three road corridors and other improvements were completed during the previous Ingraham and Christie administrations. And the project was re-started last year by the Ingraham administration with the major contract going to Jose Cartellone Construction of Argentina.

All of this has, of course, been discussed and published and re-published and publicised and promoted many times over many years, with tons of documentation available online. Yet a Vista

Marina resident named Michelle Campbell says she only found out about the new road cutting through her neighbourhood when she heard some Spanish-speaking men working near her property line.

"The government should say what they planning to do before going ahead with these things," she told a recent town meeting. "Bahamians are being treated like children. Why can't we know what is happening in our country? They are building a lot of new roads that seem to be a duplication of what's already there. I have been everywhere trying to get information. It is under complete lockdown."

And if you go to the Save Saunders Beach Facebook page you will see disingenuous comments like this: "Arawak Cay should be a public park — Clifton is too far out. Why should the people have to give up a beach in order for a few to make money? Arawak Cay was the next to last best option (for the port). In fact, the current location was even better, but the Bay Street Boys are back and they are having their way, even if it means destroying one of the last beaches open to the people."

It would be funny if it wasn't so serious. In fact, it's eerily similar to the way right-wing Republicans and talk radio hosts attack the Obama administration. On healthcare reform, for example, the current opposition scare tactic is that the bill presently being discussed in Congress will lead to end-of-life "rationing" and "euthanasia" for our grannies.

Ironically enough, the Bay Street property owners and shippers were extremely reluctant to move their existing operations anywhere. As the prime minister noted recently, it is much easier and more profitable for them if things remain just as they are.

The reality is that after decades of intensive lobbying those seeking to revitalise the city of Nassau final-

"The supposed threat to Saunders Beach is a complete red herring designed to stir the pot."

ly managed to cobble together a bipartisan consensus that the downtown container facilities had to move for change to occur. The Christie administration decreed that they should move to Southwest Point, and a study was done to support this, but no firm plan existed prior to the 2007 general election.

Framework

The new Ingraham administration decided that the container facilities should move to Arawak Cay (where 40 per cent of all cargo already arrives) and set about creating a framework for this to happen. The argument was that the Arawak Cay location would involve minimal environmental impact, would be much cheaper than cutting into the island at Southwest Point, and could be completed within one year as opposed to several.

The supposed threat to Saunders Beach is a complete red herring designed to stir the pot. This part of the Nassau shoreline was impacted when Arawak Cay was created in 1966, but experts say the limited expansion underway now is unlikely to make any difference. And the government is also planning to restore the dune and make the beach more accessible to the public along the lines of what was done at Goodman's Bay years ago.

Tough Call has written on these matters in detail over

the past few weeks (see www.bahamapundit.com), but it is not unusual for folks to have short and sometimes selective memories. It is, however, the duty of the government to provide comprehensive and easily accessible information about important national projects, so that there can be no argument over who said what when.

Both PLP and FNM administrations have failed miserably in this regard, even though it is clearly in any rational government's interest to ensure that citizens are properly informed.

As panelist Ryan Pinder said at the recent town meeting: "You have a vested interest in getting information on the (port relocation) project because you will own the port. It is your project and you should know each and every detail."

We agree that there needs to be a comprehensive and official presentation of all the facts and figures surrounding the Arawak Cay proposal. And this is something that is supposed to happen rather belatedly at another town meeting set for August 6 at the British Colonial Hilton.

Obviously no government can afford to waste too much time and energy responding to every angry headline or uninformed comment. And there is a big difference between expressing wants and opinions and taking responsibility for important decisions.

That is what the government must now set about doing with regard to the movement of the container port to Arawak Cay. The motivation for the move is accepted by just about everybody. The location of the move is a matter of analysing the overall costs and benefits.

Making sure the public has access to good information is not the same as sticking your backside in the air.

What do you think? Send comments to larry@tribunemedia.net Or visit www.bahamapundit.com

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Kobe to host 'King' James and Shaq for Christmas



Vincent Yu/AP

NBA superstar Kobe Bryant holds his T-shirt during a clinic in Hong Kong. The NBA Finals Most Valuable Player, last week was on the second leg of his Nike sponsored 2009 Asia tour which kicked off in the Philippines, to conduct basketball clinics with youths from the city-state before moving on to Shanghai and Chengdu, China.

NEW YORK (AP) — The NBA is bringing Kobe Bryant and Shaquille O'Neal together again for Christmas — this time joined by LeBron James.

Bryant and the defending champion Los Angeles Lakers will host the Cleveland Cavaliers on December 25, one of the highlights of the 2009-10 NBA schedule released Tuesday.

It will be the fourth time in the five years since their partnership ended that Bryant and O'Neal will meet on Christmas.

Traded to Cleveland in June, O'Neal will return to Los Angeles this year with James, who succeeded Bryant as MVP last season.

O'Neal and James will play their first game together in the NBA season opener, hosting the Boston Celtics on Oct. 27. The four-game slate that night concludes when the Lakers open their title defense against No. 1 draft pick Blake Griffin and the Clippers.

Defending Eastern Conference champion Orlando opens Oct. 28 against Philadelphia, then goes on the road two nights later to visit New Jersey, giving Vince Carter a quick return to his former home.

The Magic will visit the Lakers for an NBA finals rematch Jan. 18 as part of the schedule on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, and Los Angeles will play at Orlando on March 7 for the first time since winning the title in June.

Orlando also plays on Christmas, hosting Boston in a matchup of the last two East champions. Miami at New York, the Clippers at Phoenix and Denver at Portland round out that day's action.

European soccer wary over big spenders

LONDON (AP) — European soccer's governing body is concerned Real Madrid and Manchester City have distorted the transfer market by paying big fees for new players.

Real Madrid has spent \$271 million to obtain Cristiano Ronaldo, Kaka and Karim Benzema. Backed by wealthy Abu Dhabi owners, Manchester City paid about \$170 million to acquire Carlos Tevez, Roque Santa Cruz, Gareth Barry, Emmanuel Adebayor and Kolo Toure.

"I would say in this financial climate, it is surprising — a little bit destabilizing of the market," David Taylor, general secretary of the Union of European Football Associations, said Tuesday in an interview with the British Broadcasting Corp. "It is certainly raising the ante in terms of the player costs, in terms of the general market place, which is not a thing that gives us a great deal of comfort in these difficult times."

UEFA president Michel Platini has called paying for transfers by taking on debt "financial doping."

With Leeds still struggling in the third tier of English football five years after being relegated from the Premier League with huge debts, Taylor highlighted the danger of spending huge sums.

"We've seen what has happened in recent years with a number of very high-profile clubs — Leeds United for example," he said. "They fell into serious financial difficulties by overextending themselves."

Newcastle faces challenges both on and off the field after being relegated in May. Just days ahead of its League Championship opener, it has no manager and has been unable to trade players because owner Mike Ashley is trying without success to sell the club.

Ashley bought Newcastle for \$270 million two years ago and paid another \$222 million to reduce its debt. But relegation cut the club's value and has left him trying to sell it for \$169 million.

"There are stories concerning some English clubs that are of significant concern," Taylor said. "There are a number of English clubs where the value of the club itself has fallen significantly."

NBA sets stage for rekindling of Heat-Knicks rivalry

By TIM REYNOLDS
AP Sports Writer

MIAMI (AP) — The NBA has set the stage for a rekindling of the Heat-Knicks rivalry.

Reigning NBA scoring champion Dwyane Wade and the Miami Heat will open their 2009-10 season at home October 28 against the New York Knicks, then visit the Knicks to begin a Christmas Day quintupleheader, among the highlights of the schedule released Tuesday.

Miami is slotted for 23 nationally televised games, although those are subject to change.

The Heat and Knicks met in the playoffs in four consecutive seasons between 1997 and 2000, going the distance in each of those epic meetings, and a rivalry was born.

It got new life last season, when a

New York visit to South Florida prompted one of Wade's best games.

After getting a bloody lip courtesy of Danilo Galinari's elbow, Wade scored 15 of Miami's 19 unanswered fourth-quarter points and the Heat — who were down by 15 when the injury happened — prevailed 120-115.

For good measure, when the Knicks returned April 12, Wade scored a career-high 55 points, one shy of the Heat franchise record.

And now Miami will play on Christmas Day for the fifth time in six years, getting one of the 10 available spots to take part in one of the NBA's showcase days.

Other Christmas games: Boston heads to Orlando, Cleveland visits the defending champion Los Angeles Lakers, No. 1 overall pick Blake Griffin and the Los Angeles Clip-

pers head to Phoenix, and Denver will play at Portland.

"Anytime you play on Christmas, you know everyone is watching you," Wade said last season.

"That's a big day for anyone in the NBA."

Other schedule highlights:

— Nov. 18 and Feb. 10: Miami returns to Atlanta, where it lost Game 7 of last season's physical Eastern Conference quarterfinal series. The Hawks visit Miami Jan. 4 and March 6.

— Nov. 12 and Jan. 25: Cleveland, with reigning MVP LeBron James and former Heat center Shaquille O'Neal, come to South Florida. Miami plays in Cleveland Feb. 4.

— Dec. 4: The Heat visit the champion Lakers, with Los Angeles coming to Miami on March 4.

— Dec. 31: Miami plays its last game of 2009 in San Antonio.

The schedule has significant travel ebbs and flows for Miami, which is home only five times in a 45-day span of January and February.

Miami plays eight of its first 10 games at home and has a six-game homestand in December, ending two days before Christmas.

But when the Heat start hitting the road, they might be taking some extra luggage.

After Miami hosts Boston Jan. 6, the Heat play 19 of 24 games on the road. Starting March 2, Miami plays nine out of 10 at home, and the regular season also ends in South Florida against New Jersey on April 14.

Every Eastern Conference team visits Miami twice, except for the Knicks (Miami also goes to New York on April 11) and Detroit.

By The Associated Press

SCOREBOARD

Wednesday, August 5

Milwaukee at Los Angeles Dodgers (10:10 p.m. EDT). Fresh off his longest outing in a few years, Jason Schmidt (2-1) will try to lift the Dodgers to another victory. Schmidt lasted six innings, giving up one hit in a 5-0 win over the Braves on July 31.

STARS

Monday

— Rajai Davis, Athletics, had a pinch-hit triple down the right field line to drive in two runs in the bottom of the ninth inning and lift Oakland to a 3-2 victory over Texas.

— Clete Thomas, Tigers, homered with two outs in the bottom of the ninth to give Detroit a 6-5 win over Baltimore.

— Randy Wells, Cubs, took a shutout into the eighth inning and helped Chicago beat the Reds 4-2.

— Mark Reynolds, Diamondbacks, hit two home runs to lift Arizona to a 6-5 win over the New York Mets.

— Adam Dunn and Ryan Zimmerman, Nationals, homered to help Washington rally to beat Pittsburgh 8-4.

— Carl Crawford, Rays, had three hits and three RBIs to lead Tampa Bay to a 10-4 win over Kansas City.

SURGERY

Arizona Diamondbacks ace Brandon Webb had shoulder surgery Monday, putting an end to a difficult season for the usually durable right-hander. Arizona was expected to be a playoff contender this year with Webb and Dan Haren at the front of its rotation. But Webb never pitched again after a no-decision against Colorado on opening day and the Diamondbacks

Baseball Today



Ben Margot/AP

OAKLAND ATHLETICS' Rajai Davis connects for a game-winning triple off Texas Rangers' C J Wilson in the ninth inning of a game Monday in Oakland, California. Two runs scored on the play and Oakland won 3-2...

quickly fell off the pace in the NL West.

WILD THING

Dodgers starter Clayton Kershaw lost for the first time since June 10,

issuing a season-high six walks, including four straight in the fourth inning to bring in two of his three runs allowed.

Kershaw had an 0.79 ERA in his previous nine starts.

SNAPPED

Matt Cain lost for the first time in the last six games he started with the Giants' 4-3 defeat to Houston. Cain (12-3) failed in his bid to become the fourth pitcher in Giants

history to win 13 of his first 15 decisions in a season. He allowed two homers in a game for the first time since June 9.

STRUGGLING

Cincinnati starter Aaron Harang lost his ninth straight decision with the Reds' 4-2 defeat by Chicago. Harang (5-13), who leads the majors in losses, hasn't won since May 25. It's the deepest slump of his career and the longest losing streak by a Reds pitcher since Danny Graves lost 10 straight between the 2003 and 2004.

STATS

Alex Gonzalez was out of the Reds' starting lineup and ended an 0-for-20 slump when he homered in the eighth inning. The A's won for the third time in 53 games when trailing after the eighth inning.

Oakland outfielder Rajai Davis has 16 RBIs since the All-Star Break.

Zack Greinke allowed six runs and 10 hits over five innings, and is 0-4 in six starts since his last win on June 28 at Pittsburgh. He is 0-3 in five career games, including four starts, at Tropicana Field.

Royals 3B Alex Gordon, hitless in 11 at-bats in the first three games of the series, was out of the starting lineup. Gordon is 0 for 34 overall at Tropicana Field.

SPEAKING

"This is one of my favourite starts of my career. In the past, I would have fallen apart — when I struggled in the first, I would never make it out of the fourth.

"Tonight, I went eight and kept us in the game."

— Detroit starter Justin Verlander, who gave up five runs in the first inning before settling down to stymie the Orioles the rest of the game

SPORTS

JUNIOR PAN AM CHAMPIONSHIPS: TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Bronze medal glory for 1600m relay team

Quartet's great display comes after several disappointing finishes by 12-member squad

by **RENALDO DORSETT**
Sports Reporter
rdorsett@tribunemedia.net

The Bahamas' 12 member team returned from the Junior Pan Am Championships with a several disappointing finishes but managed to end the region's top junior meet with a long awaited medal winning performance in the 1600m relay.

The team of Rashan Brown, Katrina Seymour, Katarina Smith, and Shauna Miller ran to a bronze medal finish on the final day of the meet in Trinidad and Tobago.

The quartet finished in a time of 3:42.17s in the finale event.

The United States' team of Alishea Usery, Angele Cooper, Kellie Schueler and Diamond Richardson finished first in 3:36.34s.

Jamaica was second with Jodi-Ann Muir, Amoy Blake, Danielle Dowie and Nikita Tracey in 3:37.65s.

Canada finished fourth in 3:44.86s while the British Virgin Islands rounded out the top five in 3:46.82s

Brown, Smith, Miller just missed out on a double medal performance when they teamed up with Ivanique to finish fifth in 45.85s.

In the men's 100m, Warren Frazier ran to a sixth place finish in the final of the 100m in 10.49s.

Marcus Rowland of the United States finished in a new Pan Am Championship record of 10.03s.

His teammate D'Angelo Cherry finished second in 10.17s, while Diego Cavalcanti finished third in 10.30s and Jamaica's Dexter Lee finished a disappointing sixth in 10.33s

In the men's 200m, Karlton Rolle finished fifth in 21.11s. Jamaica's Nickel Ashmeade won in 20.04s a personal best for any juniors on the 2009 season.

Keyth Talley of the United States was second in 20.78s and edged out Ramone McKenzie of Jamaica in 20.79s.

Nathan Arnett, was sixth in the 400m Hurdles in 51.57s.

William Wyne of the United States was first in a new Pan AM Championship record and 2009 best of 49.31s.

Jehue Gordon of Trinidad and Tobago was second in 50.08s, Reginald Wyatt of the United States was third in 50.61s.

Frazier, Rolle, Jones and Farquharson, teamed up to finish fifth in the final of 4x100m.

Record

The Americans set a new Pan Am Championship record 39.06s.

In the field, J'Vante Deveaux was fourth in the long jump with 15.82m, which came on his final attempt.

Deveaux was beaten out on the final attempt, he tied Albert Johnson's mark of 15.82m, but Johnson surpassed it with a jump of 15.89m

William Claye won with a leap of 16.57m and Jena Rosa was second in 16.03m

On the female side of the roster, the Bahamas fielded several finalists.

Ivanique Kemp finished sixth in the 100m Hurdles in 14.18s.

Keythra Richards finished eighth in the long jump with a leap of 5.23m, and sixth in the triple jump with a leap of 11.89m.

Each of the 17 countries competing in the meet reached the medal stand with the Bahamas being one of four countries including Barbados, Paraguay, Venezuela to finish with a single bronze medal.

The United States won the total medal tally with 56 medals (21 gold, 22 silver, and 13 bronze).



2009 Carifta silver medallist Rashan Brown (seen in this file photo). She was part of the team that ran to a bronze medal finish on the final day of the meet in Trinidad and Tobago.



KATRINA SEYMOUR in action in this file photo. The team of Rashan Brown, Katrina Seymour, Katarina Smith, and Shauna Miller captured a bronze medal at the Junior Pan Am Championships. The quartet finished in a time of 3:42.17s in the finale event.

Cuba finished with six gold medals, Mexico finished with a total of nine medals (three gold, four silver and two bronze), Jamaica finished with 14 medals (three gold, three

silver and eight bronze) while Canada three gold, three silver and seven bronze and Brazil two gold, six silver and five bronze, tied with 13 medals.

CENTRAL AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Our performance was a 'disgrace', says Minister



DESMOND BANNISTER

"These athletes decided to go to Europe and listen to their agents and not represent their country"

On the heels of forgettable results for the Bahamas' senior track and field athletes at the most recent regional contest, Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture expressed displeasure at the team's performance and the lack of participation by several elite athletes.

Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture, Desmond Bannister called the performance of the team at last month's Central American and Caribbean Track and Field Championships a "disgrace" and suggested the entire process of subvention for elite athletes will be revisited.

The team finished with four medals and finished seventh overall at the 22nd CAC Championships.

The Minister said, the team, filled with veteran athletes and younger rising stars was void of many of the country's more well known athletes who receive Government Subvention.

"These athletes decided

to go to Europe and listen to their agents and not represent their country," he said, "the Sports Ministry is going to take a stand and ensure The Bahamian people that athletes on subvention represent this country at the regional level."

The Minister called the team mediocre and suggested the dissemination of the subvention process will be revisited possibly to include stipulations for national representation.

"There are athletes who should have been there to represent The Bahamas who could have won medals and broken records, but instead

they rather compete in Europe," he said, "With the government spending more than \$600,000 annually on track and field athletes in subvention.

"It seems as if the athletes prefer going to Europe to make money rather than represent The Bahamas who pays them through subvention. The Ministry is going to put a stop to this because it seems that they do not want the subvention."

Several national record holders opted out of the CAC Championships.

Host country Cuba took first place with a total of 53 medals.

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Kobe to host 'King' James and Shaq for Christmas...

See page 9

'Choo Choo' Mackey gets No. 24 ranking in WBC

By BRENT STUBBS
Senior Sports Reporter
bstubbs@tribunemedia.net

Undaunted by the fact that he's based at home, Jermaine "Choo Choo" Mackey has climbed up the ladder and is now rated in the World Boxing Council.

The Bahamian WBC Caribbean Boxing Federation, World Boxing Association and British Commonwealth champion is listed at No. 24 in the WBC's super middleweight division.

He joins Meacher "Pain" Major, who is pegged at No. 15 in the WBA's lightweight division. But while Major was able to achieve his accomplishment fighting out of the United States, Mackey has done it based here at home.

"I'm grateful and I'm excited. It just shows that hard work and determination does pay off," said Mackey about his latest accomplishment. "I'm really excited about the ranking."

For Mackey, the 29-year-old who is coming off a successful defense of his WBC's Caribbean Boxing Federation's CABOFE title with a third round TKO win over Emiliano Cayetano on May 30, said he's hoping that the rating will enable him to continue his quest to become a world champion, even if he remains at home doing it.

"It tells a whole lot about the Bahamas and boxers in general," Mackey stressed. "It tells you that you really don't have to travel abroad to be the best."

"You can be right in your country, supported by your country and still be the best. I think it shows a whole lot about the Bahamas and the Bahamian people."

With his ranking, Mackey said he's sure that he will continue to get the international recognition and he should be receiving more offers to fight, either at home or abroad.

Mackey, who has an impressive 18-3 record with 14 knockouts, has only fought

four times outside of the country where he has suffered all of his losses, the last two coming back-to-back in 2007 in Berlin, Germany, and Providenciales, Turks and Caicos, respectively.

In his first European appearance in Berlin on August 18 at the Max Schmeling Halle, Prenzlauer Berg, Mackey went eight rounds with Karo Murat before he lost on points.

Mackey followed that up later that year with another loss on points to Reginald Taylor on November 17 at the Casablanca Casino in the Turks.

At home, under the guidance of First Class Promotions, Mackey has been unbeaten with only two of his fights going the distance, including his grueling 12-round decision over African Michael Gbenga on July 19, 2008, for the Commonwealth British title.

First Class promoter Michelle Minus said Mackey is heading in the right direction with the rating.

"I'm very, very proud of him. Being a Bahamian, anytime one of our own is doing well locally or internationally, we are all very proud and happy for him," Minus said.

"The dedication and everything he has put into it, he's beginning to reap the fruits of his labour. So it does you good and makes you feel very proud knowing that we have somebody out there performing like him."

Admitting that it's not the best, Minus said it still speaks volumes for the Bahamas when you consider the fact that there is no other Caribbean country with a fighter ranked as high as Mackey.

"We're encouraging other boxers to put in the time and energy so that one day they might even be higher (in the rankings)," Minus said.

Mackey, according to Minus, should be back in the ring sometime in September for a tune up before he gets set to defend his Commonwealth title in October.



Tim Clarke/Tribune staff

CLIMBING THE LADDER — Jermaine "Choo Choo" Mackey is listed at No. 24 in the WBC's super middleweight division...



Tim Clarke/Tribune staff

DEBBIE FERGUSON-MCKENZIE is a part of the 24-member Bahamian team that is scheduled to compete at the IAAF World Championships in Berlin, Germany...

BAAA to send 24-member team to the IAAF World Championships in Berlin

THE Bahamas Association of Athletic Associations (BAAA) will today be sending a 24-member team (not 23) to the IAAF World Championships in Athletics to be held in Berlin, Germany.

Inadvertently missing from the list posted in *The Tribune* yesterday was Osbourne Moxey, who will compete in the men's long jump. We apologize to Moxey for the error. Here's a look at the complete list:

MEN'S TEAM

- Derrick Atkins (100m)
- Adrian Griffith (1200m)
- Nathaniel McKinney (200m)
- Chris Brown (400m/4 x 400 relay)
- Ramon Miller

- (400m, 4 x 400 relay)
- Latoy Williams (4 x 400 relay)
- Avard Moncur (4 x 400 relay)
- Andretti Bain (4 x 400 relay)
- Michael Mathieu (4 x 400 relay)
- Leevan Sands (triple jump)
- Shamar Sands (110mH)
- Donald Thomas (high jump)
- Trevor Barry (high jump)
- Osbourne Moxey (long jump)

WOMEN'S TEAM

- Chandra Sturup (100m/4 x 100 relay)
- Debbie Ferguson-McKenzie (100m, 200m, 4 x 100, 4 x 400 relays)

- Sheniqa Ferguson (200/4 x 100 relay)
- Christine Amertil (400/4 x 100, 4 x 400 relays)
- Janise Saunders (4 x 100/4 x 400 relays)
- Timicka Clarke (4 x 100 relay)
- Sasha Rolle (4 x 400 relay)
- Shakeithas Henfield (4 x 400 relay)
- Katrina Seymour (4 x 400 relay)
- Rashan Brown (4 x 400 relay)
- Team manager - Ralph McKinney
- Coaches - Tyrone Burrows, Frank "Pancho" Rahming and George Cleare
- Doctor - Ricky Davis
- Physiotherapist - Katrice Robinson
- Media liason/chaperone - Julie Wilson

LOCAL NEWS

Maycock Sr bail application is refused

FROM page one

police station every day of the week. Mr Gomez argued yesterday that the evidence in Maycock's escape case is tenuous, however, Mr Williams contended that a decision on the matter should be left to the Magistrate hearing the case which is scheduled to resume on September 22. Justice Isaacs ruled, however, that the court was not minded to grant Maycock Sr bail at the present stage, but would not place a time frame on when another application could be made.

Attorney Craig Butler had filed a constitutional motion on Maycock's behalf and it had been agreed by Mr Williams, the prosecutor, that the conditions under which Maycock is being held at Her Majesty's

Prison should improve. Mr Butler, however, told the court yesterday that since that hearing, prison authorities have not acted on the requests. Mr Butler read to the court a letter he had received from Prison Superintendent Elliston Rahming in which Mr Rahming said that he did not take orders from Mr Butler's office or any office other than the Attorney General's and requested a court order.

Maycock had sought to be placed in a cell with proper ventilation, have his visitation rights with family and friends not be interfered with and have his visits in the visitation room or an appropriate area rather than his cell. He had also requested that his meals be brought in a timely fashion. Justice Isaacs granted the application for the formal order yesterday.

Slow ticket sales for Miss Universe pageant



THE PAGEANT will take place at the Atlantis resort.

FROM page one

Up to press time, the Ministry could not provide final figures for ticket sales for the pageant and connected events. But the department said that to date, tickets for the state auction dinner on August 13 have been the most popular.

Tourism stakeholders are betting on the exposure from the pageant to jumpstart the country's weakened tourism industry.

The event will be broadcast by NBC in more than 150 countries and covered by 500 representatives of the international media.

"We haven't really focused on the main event. We're focused on getting the word out about the Bahamas. It's the kind of publicity you can't pay for and far exceeds what we would have paid (to host the pageant)," Ms Johnson told *The Tribune* yesterday.

Still the Ministry cannot predict how soon this planned positive exposure will pay off.

"We can't say specifically that we're going to have a huge uptick (in visitors) but I think the Bahamas will be a sexy destination that people will think about."

In preparation for the pageant, the Ministry has substantially beefed up its local and international advertising campaigns.

"We've done it all. Today we're running full sheet ads (in the local dailies), also we have moving billboards on the jitneys. When Bahamians are coming through the airports they will see the immigration booths have been wrapped in the Miss Universe imagery, the doors in the airport have been decorated, there are flags all over, we have a page on tourismtoday.com. So we've done a lot to promote and push the pageant," said Ms Johnson.

She declined to put a dollar value on the financial injection the campaigns have put into the local economy but said there is a definite trickle-down effect.

"We've done a tremendous amount of public relations internationally. And that's cache you really can't pay for. We've put some money into the local economy in terms of advertisements and we've gone the non-traditional route and created a trickle-down for sectors that didn't benefit from our advertising before."

The pageant festivities kick off on August 9 with a swimsuit presentation at the Our Lucaya Resort in Grand Bahama.

The next day, the beauties will be on display during a motorcade through western New Providence leading up to the final event on August 23.

Davis announces bid for PLP deputy

FROM page one

allegations against 'any' official," he said.

Mr Davis has earned the nickname of "Brave" for his fearless approach to taking criminal cases that his peers often described as un-winnable and succeeding. In his statement yesterday, Mr Davis capitalized on this distinction and continually referred to the need for the PLP to have now more than ever a leader who is "brave enough" to say "no."

"No to criminals who terrorize us in our streets and no to politicians who take for them-

selves at the expense of the Bahamian people. We will not prosper and create good jobs until we end the culture of crime in the streets and the culture of corruption in politics.

"Too many politicians shy away from solving problems. They are not courageous. They are not bold or brave. Well, I am Brave. And I will take these problems head on. I ask you to be Brave with me. Together, we can fight crime; together, we can fight corruption; together, we can create jobs of the future. We can do this. Let's be brave together. Let's change the Bahamas," he said.

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PROTESTERS TRY TO tear down a police barrier as they protest for higher wages outside parliament in Port-au-Prince, Tuesday, Aug. 4, 2009. Protesters demanded an increase in the minimum wage, saying they are unable to feed and shelter their families on less than \$2 a day.

Haitian police clash with workers seeking pay hike

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti

HAITIAN police fired tear gas Tuesday at protesters who massed outside Parliament to demand an increase in the minimum wage, saying they are unable to feed and shelter their families on less than \$2 a day, according to *Associated Press*.

As legislators prepared to vote on the issue, some of the 2,000 protesters threw rocks at police and began ripping down flags of U.N. member countries near the building.

Most of the crowd dispersed hours before the Parliament session began, with no arrests and only two reported injuries, including a cameraman who was hit in the head with a rock. But the issue remains inflammatory, and lawmakers debated the question into the night.

In May, Parliament approved a proposal to nearly triple the minimum wage, but President Rene Preval refused to publish it into law. He said the increase should omit workers at factories producing garments for export. Preval said those workers should receive an increase to about \$3.

The debate has fueled unrest across the impoverished Caribbean nation, with some critics arguing that an increase would hurt plans to fight widespread unemployment by creating jobs in factories that produce clothing for export to the United States.

Many of the protesters were minimum-wage factory workers, such as Banel Jeune, a 29-year-old father who sews sleeves on shirts.

"Seventy gourdes, that doesn't do anything for me," he said, referring to his current minimum-wage salary. "I can't feed my kids, and I can't send them to school."

Lawmakers have pledged to resubmit the proposal without any changes, raising the minimum wage to about \$5 a day.

Lesly Antoine, a 32-year-old who lost his job with the state-run telephone company, said Preval's "compromise offer is no compromise at all."

Former President Jean-Bertrand Aristide was overthrown in 2004, in part after business owners angered by his approval of an increased minimum wage organized opposition against him.

Despite the heated debate, few people would be affected by the wage increase or anticipated job losses.

Most of Haiti's 9 million people who are employed work on small farms or sell basic goods on the street. Only some 250,000 people have jobs covered by the minimum salary law, said lawmaker Steven Benoit, who sponsored the bill.

Many in the international community who view garment factories as the way to boost Haiti's economic development oppose the wage increase.

With new trade advantages that allow for duty-free exports of clothing to the U.S., such factories could provide "several hundred thousand jobs to Haitians ... over a period of just a few years," according to a report submitted to the U.N. in January.

But it said that plan requires costs be kept down.

The report had been requested by Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon and prepared by Oxford University professor Paul Collier. It is now being promoted by former U.S. President Bill Clinton, the new U.N. envoy for Haiti.

Miss Universe events to give resorts 'priceless exposure'

By **CHESTER ROBARDS**
 Business Reporter
crobards@tribunemedia.net

The Wyndham Nassau Resort and the Sheraton are expected to gain almost priceless exposure and significant equity only days before the Wyndham's three-month closure, with three of six events for the Miss Universe Pageant being held on those properties, according to a senior Baha Mar executive.

Robert Sands told Tribune Business that there has not been so much

a focus on filling rooms as there has been promoting the Bahamas chain of Islands through the huge contingent of international media that is expected.

Indeed, those same contingents will also provide some room revenue for New Providence hotels as well as other islands that



Robert Sands

will be visited by the Miss Universe delegation, including Harbour Island and Grand Bahama.

"It's never been about occupancy during this period, but more about public relations that will truly benefit the destination," said Mr Sands.

"The destination will see a large following of persons coming to the island.

"Do not get caught up on the 23rd, the bigger implication a benefit of the event is the parlaying of the Bahamas brand to the world and what it would mean to us for the future."

Mr Sands, who is also the Bahamas Hotel association President, could not say what the projected occupancies would be at other New Providence and Paradise Island hotels on the day of the event.

However, he said the more than 90 delegations from around the world would not affect Baha Mar hotels to a large degree.

He suggested that if the pageant will mean a short economic upsurge moving into what is traditionally the slowest period - August to November - in the hospitality industry.

"I think it's fair to say that there

will be some economic boost as a direct result," said Mr Sands.

A large amount of entrepreneurs will be benefiting from the event, many disciplines, whether transport, print media or direct marketing companies and floral companies. This will expose the destination to the world.

"Those delegations vary in sizes we know there will be a huge press contingent and television group as well as crew members and there will be followers.

SEE page 2B

Germany and UK most stable economies for business through EPA 'Primadonna' turns profit in a year

By **CHESTER ROBARDS**
 Business Reporter
crobards@tribunemedia.net

GERMANY and the United Kingdom will be the two most stable economies for Bahamians to move businesses to when the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with the European Union (EU) opens up Europe to the trade of services, according to a trade specialist.

Noel Watson, during the Bahamas Chamber of Commerce's EPA seminar held last Thursday, revealed that those two countries also have two of the largest market sizes in accounting and auditing professions, along with Malta.

Research was done through consultants working in tandem with the Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery (CRNM) in order to accrue data on markets that will be opened up through the EPA to investment by Cariforum countries, including the Bahamas.

Some countries visited by the consultants were Belgium, France, Netherlands, the UK, Estonia and Malta.

The criteria used for assessing opportunities in those countries were their willingness to enter partnerships or joint ventures, price differentiation, competitive-

ness of each market and the shortage of skills in those markets, quality of service and niche opportunities.

It was found that on a one-to-ten scale Estonia, France and the UK were most open to new market access while Spain and Italy were least open.

The study also found that the Netherlands and Estonia were most open to the movement of foreign firms into their country, while Malta, Spain and France were not.

Estonia and Malta were pegged as gateway opportunities for cross-border access to countries not necessarily involved in the EPA. Malta provides a hub to North Africa, Libya, Tunisia and Egypt, while Estonia opens up access to former Soviet states, Scandinavia and Baltic states.

According to Mr Watson, Bahamians should be excited about the opportunities opened up the EPA and prepare to take advantage of them.

There has been some dissent to the signing of the trade agreement, mostly because it was thought that government finalised the deal without adequate consultation by the private sector and by some member's of cabinet who should have fully scrutinised the deal.

However, Mr Watson said there is no use "complaining and worrying," but suggested Bahamians "just make sure we can compete."

Mr Watson said firms here will have to "sharpen up businesses" and operate at the same standard as those coming out of the EU. Of course the EPA facilitates cross border movements for Bahamian firms that wish to set up in EU states.

Mr Watson said this could be much more beneficial to Cariforum states as "it is more expensive in Europe, but you can command much higher fees."

According to him, businesses can dilute costs by doing much of their work from their firms located in their home country.

By **CHESTER ROBARDS**
 Business Reporter
crobards@tribunemedia.net

A LOCAL fashionista said she was able to grow a \$100,000 shopping and networking event despite the economic downturn, with designer items priced 30 to 80 per cent off retail prices in the US.

Tyrina Neely, 24, whose business 'Primadonna' celebrated its first anniversary last week, told *Tribune Business* that her Virtual Fashion Network has turned a profit in just one year, after an initial outlay of "tens of thousands

of dollars" from her personal coffers.

"I wanted to create a night out for women that encompasses fashion," said Ms Neely. "We have the music we have a taste of style, we have our bubbly bar, its kind of a night out that is all about living the fabulous life I guess and enjoying life, which is the whole concept of primadonna."

She said the concept of the business is to bring designer brands to the Bahamas not found at any other outlet and offer them at deeply discounted prices in a comfortable and "Chill" atmosphere, where her clients can garner

her advice - at no extra cost.

Ms Neely attended fashion school in New York where she also developed relationships and designers that allowed her to build her inventory here at home.

She imports designer brands such as Betsey Johnson and Tory Burch as well as a vast array of costume and fine jewelry.

She said the initial idea was to only sell women's clothing. Now, as the business has grown the inventory is expanding and the event has grown into a trunk show and cocktail party.

Women from all walks of

life are invited though an exclusive e-mail list to browse clothes, shoes and accessories while sipping on top shelf drinks.

"It's where women come to shop and socialize monthly over hors d'oeuvres and cocktails," said Ms Neely, "It's getting bigger and better and we usually have tonnes more clothes."

According to her, in one year the company's e-mail list has grown to over 3000 addresses, so large that participants are required to RSVP before the event.

SEE page 2B

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BUSINESS

What is happening to the 'F' factor?

THIS week's article will be very short and very sweet. Last week I wrote about the "H" (Human) factor, this week I'm writing about the "F" factor. Hmmmmm, I'm hoping that I do not have to pull any of you out of the gutter with this one? The "F" factor is simply ...FUN. Do not forget to have fun along the way.

I'm also writing this article to myself as well, because we all need reminding. There are a couple basic things I tend to forget myself and do need reminding of once in a while.

Have you ever heard of the "BLUE FLY SYNDROME?" Possibly not. A blue fly, is a fly that gets so wound up, it flies in concentric rapid circles, and eventually it dis-

appears up into its own orifice. (In Bahamian colloquialism that's 'bungy for yennas').

To help with the "F" factor, asking these questions usually helps. Try it and let me know.

In the scheme of things, THE BIG PICTURE so to speak, try asking these questions to yourself and see if your Blue Fly goes away before he or she disappears. When a client, co-worker, supplier and even yourself drive you to start flying in circles, stop and ask yourself these questions.

Will getting this upset matter in a day? Will it matter in a week? Will it matter in a month? Will it matter in a year? Nine times out of ten the answer is NO. Getting so wound up



Promotional Marketing

by Scott Farrington

all the time is not healthy, nor worth it. In the scheme of things, most of the time the issue is forgotten.

TRY THIS
Poke fun at yourself, laugh at yourself. Have you ever asked yourself, "Why did I get so upset...Was it worth it?" Well I have and afterwards I just had to laugh.

The point I'm really making here is that when sales and marketing

people (this goes for anyone really) get so wound up, the passion disappears, creativity disappears, the personality disappears and so on. Nobody benefits. It's not good for you as an individual, it's not good for the client and it's not good for the company you work for.

When you stop having fun or enjoying what you're doing it's quite possibly time to get out.

However in the mean time ask yourself these questions and remember to watch out for the "BLUE FLY" and try and have some "F" (fun) along the way.

All of these marketing strategies are certain to keep your business on top during these challenging eco-

nomics times. Have a productive and profitable week! Remember, "THOSE WHO MARKET WILL MAKE IT."

• **Scott Farrington is President of SunTee EmbroidMe, a promotional and marketing company specializing in promotional products.**

Established over 27 years ago SunTee EmbroidMe has assisted local businesses from various industries from tourism, banking and telecommunications in marketing themselves.

Readers can contact Mr. Farrington at SunTee EmbroidMe on East Shirley Street, by e-mail at scott@sun-tee.com or by telephone at 242-393-3104.

Oil falls below \$71 after big rally

By ALEX KENNEDY
Associated Press Writer

SINGAPORE (AP) — Oil prices fell below \$71 a barrel Tuesday in Asia after a big rally fueled by signs of economic recovery in the U.S.

Benchmark crude for September delivery was down \$1.11 to \$70.47 a barrel by late afternoon Singapore time in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. On Monday, the contract rose \$2.13 to

settle at \$71.58.

Traders have brushed off evidence of weak crude demand and rising inventory levels, instead focusing on improving macroeconomic indicators.

A report Monday from the Institute for Supply Management, a trade group of purchasing executives, said US manufacturing activity should increase next month for the first time since January 2008. Also, the Commerce Department said construction

spending rose in June.

The positive economic news has emboldened investors to bid up stocks and oil. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 1.3 per cent Monday and most Asian indexes gained Tuesday.

"With the economy seemingly improving each week, oil has felt pressure to go higher," said Michael Sander, an adviser at Sander Capital in Seattle.

"As far as fundamentals go, oil still

has very high inventory levels and weak consumer demand, but those just don't seem to matter."

A report last week showing US crude inventories jumped the previous week suggested demand remains sluggish, and sent prices below \$63 a barrel. Since then, oil has been on a tear as investors anticipate an improving economy will boost demand and whittle away supplies.

"Improving demand amid continued supply tightness should acceler-

ate the pace of erosion of the inventory overhang, lending support to prices," Barclays Capital said in a report.

In other Nymex trading, gasoline for August delivery was steady at \$2.07 a gallon and heating oil held at \$1.87. Natural gas for August delivery fell 2.7 cents to \$4.00 per 1,000 cubic feet.

In London, Brent prices fell 77 cents to \$72.77 a barrel on the ICE Futures exchange.

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Miss Universe events to give resorts 'priceless exposure'

FROM page 1B

"You cannot pick one aspect of the benefit in isolation you have to look at the benefits of the entire event."

According to him, Baha Mar is still moving forward with August 17 closure of the Wyndham with the reopening scheduled for October 5.

He said plans to close the hotel had been talked about 12 months prior and employees were notified to take their vacations during that time.

"We allowed for persons to plan for the event, also allowed them to plan for holidays and this is also tradi-

tionally the slowest period of the year in the history of hotels in the Bahamas and so we believe the strategic decision made is still a good decision," said Mr Sands.

The Wyndham will host the pageant's National Costume Presentation August 10 while the Sheraton will host The Bahamian Designer Fashion Show August 12 and the State Gift Auction Dinner August 13.

"It's fair to say the equity has been spread around, we have three of six major events," said Mr Sands.

BAHAMAS PROPERTY FUND LIMITED

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS

The Board of Directors of Bahamas Property Fund Limited today announced the completion of the purchase of Providence House, East Hill Street, Nassau, Bahamas from Jatal Holdings Limited. The acquisition was completed on July 31, 2009 for the amount of \$3,500,000. Payment was through the issuance of \$3.5million 10%, cumulative, redeemable, non-voting preference shares issued by the Fund with the balance of the funds for stamp duties and other transaction expenses being from the Fund's own resources.

NOTICE

ESTATE OF JOHN HERBERT BETHELL, (deceased)

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 29 of the Law of Property Act that any person having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of John Herbert Bethell, deceased, late of No. 8 Woodland Road off Skyline Drive in the Western District of the Island of New Providence in the Commonwealth of the Bahamas and who died on the 5th July, 2008 is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his or her claim or interest to Higgs & Kelly, Attorneys for the Executors, of P.O. Box N-4818, 384 Bay Street, Nassau, and to send such particulars not later than the 25th August, 2009, after which date the Executors will distribute the Estate among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice, and will not, as respects the property so distributed, be liable to any person of whose claim they shall not then have had notice.

HIGGS & KELLY
Attorneys for the Executors

NOTICE

IN THE ESTATE OF NORMAN STAFFORD SOLOMON
late of #48 Winton Highway, Eastern District, New Providence, Bahamas, deceased.

NOTICE is hereby given that all persons having claims or demands against the above-named Estate are requested to send the same duly certified to the undersigned on or before 9th August 2009.

AND NOTICE is hereby also given that at the expiration of the time mentioned above, the assets of the late NORMAN STAFFORD SOLOMON will be distributed among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims of which the Executor of the Estate shall then have had Notice.

GRAHAM, THOMPSON & CO.
Attorneys for the Executors
Sassoon House
Shirley Street & Victoria Avenue
P.O. Box N-272
Nassau, Bahamas.
Attention: S. Smith

BAHAMAS WASTE

P.O. Box N-4827 Nassau, Bahamas

DIVIDEND NOTICE

TO ALL SHAREHOLDERS

The Board of Directors of Bahamas Waste Limited has declared a Dividend for Ordinary Shares, to all shareholders of record as at August 11th, 2009 of 5¢ per share.

The payment will be made on August 21st, 2009 by Colina Financial Advisors Ltd., the Registrar & Transfer Agent, in the usual Manner.

David B. Donald
Corporate Secretary

'Primadona' turns profit in a year

FROM page 1B

"We have to cap it off so it is still comfortable for people," she said.

Primadona's event also features a silent auction from which proceeds will go toward assisting single mothers through a partnership with the department of social services.

Ms Neely is planning an

anniversary party for the anniversary of her business which she calls her dream.

"We're going to be doing this for a while, but long term we have huge plans and in the near future we're having a fabulous anniversary party. We're bringing in celebrities - it's going to be amazing," she said.

"It's real life networking where we attract the creme de la creme."

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BUSINESS

Toyota reports \$819m quarterly loss

By YURI KAGEYAMA
AP Business Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Toyota reported a smaller-than-expected 77.82 billion yen (\$819 million) quarterly loss and expects less red ink for the full year even as the world's top automaker battles plunging sales and a strong yen.

The maker of the Corolla subcompact and Lexus luxury models said Tuesday it expects a 450 billion yen (\$4.7 billion) loss for the fiscal year through March 2010, better than the 550 billion yen (\$5.8 billion) loss initially projected.

The result for the April-June quarter underlines that Toyota Motor Corp. is getting some traction from aggressive cost-cutting. Analysts surveyed by Thomson Reuters had forecast a fiscal first quarter loss of 210 billion yen.

Toyota, which dethroned General Motors Corp. as the world's top selling automaker in 2008, raised its global vehicle sales forecast for the fiscal year by 100,000 to 6.6 million vehicles. The increase reflected improved sales in Japan, partly because of government measures to boost green car sales.

The better forecast is still markedly below the 7.57 million vehicles Toyota sold worldwide for the fiscal year ended March, showing how far Toyota has to go to stop the flow of red ink, now into its third straight quarter.



VISITORS look at Toyota Motor Corp's hybrid car "Prius" displayed at the company's headquarters in Tokyo, Japan...

Toyota sold 1.4 million vehicles around the world during the quarter, a decrease of 785,000 vehicles from a year earlier. Quarterly sales dropped 38.3 per cent to 3,836 trillion yen (\$40.4 billion) as vehicle sales slipped in almost all regions, including North America, Europe, Japan and the rest of Asia.

Other Japanese automakers have also reported better-than-expected earnings, with No. 2 Honda continuing to stay in the black, bucking

expectations for losses. Analysts say Toyota, because of its bigger size, may need longer for a full recovery.

Tatsuo Yoshida, auto analyst at UBS Securities Japan, said a solid recovery can come only when the global economy starts improving and people start buying cars again.

"The damage was great at Toyota because it was heading toward aggressive expansion with its foot slammed on the accelerator," he said,

comparing the global financial crisis to a car wreck.

The growing popularity of environment-friendly vehicles has given Toyota some respite from the meltdown in auto demand. The automaker's new Prius gas-electric hybrid has been the top-selling model in Japan, for two months straight, the first time a hybrid clinched that spot, and is reportedly on track to take that spot again for July.

The Japanese government recently made hybrids tax-

free and began a cash-for-clunkers programme, helping boost sales of all ecological vehicles, including rival Honda Motor Co.'s Insight.

The last fiscal year, Toyota posted its worst loss ever in its seven-decade history, running up 436.94 billion yen of red ink. For the April-June quarter last year, it had posted a 353.6 billion yen profit.

Toyota had appeared almost unstoppable before the global financial crisis, with sales booming on its reputation for mileage and quality.

It planned to sell 9.85 million vehicles in calendar 2008, but its annual sales ended up dropping for the first time in a decade to just short of nine million vehicles, as the financial crisis on Wall Street morphed into a global recession.

The automaker has aggressively cut costs to ride out the downturn — slashing jobs and production, trimming managerial pay, reducing investment and foregoing travel and other expenses.

Still, vehicle sales continued to suffer as the recession crushed demand.

Japan quarterly sales totaled 407,000 vehicles, down 105,000 from the previous year, while Toyota said it sold 387,000 vehicles in North America, down 342,000.

"Although we were able to make certain improvements in fixed cost and cost reduction efforts, the decline in vehicle sales and the appreciation of the Japanese yen had

a severe impact on our earnings," said Toyota Senior Managing Director Takahiko Ijichi.

Toyota, based in Toyota city, central Japan, lost 141 billion yen (\$1.5 billion) during the quarter ended June 30 because of the appreciation of the yen. It lost another 650 billion yen (\$6.8 billion) in operating income because of miserable auto sales.

Other Japanese automakers are also reporting signs that the worst may be over.

Honda posted a 7.5 billion yen (\$79.8 million) profit for the April-June period, and raised forecasts for the full year on optimism auto sales will improve.

Nissan Motor Co., the nation's third-biggest car maker, reported a smaller-than-expected 16.5 billion yen (\$175.5 million) loss for April through June.

Earlier this year, Toyota chose Akio Toyoda, the grandson of the automaker's founder, as its new president in an effort to use his charisma to bring the ranks of workers, dealers and suppliers together.

Toyota has said the automaker will be making more managerial decisions by region, to stay nimble despite its size but has yet to give details of a turnaround strategy. Toyota shares slipped 1.5 per cent to 4,030 yen (\$42) in Tokyo. Earnings were announced before trading ended.

Asian markets rise on commodities gains

By JOE McDONALD
AP Business Writer

BEIJING (AP) — Asian markets mostly rose Tuesday on stronger commodity prices and overnight Wall Street gains driven by signs the US recession might be ending. European stocks fell in early trade.

Investors in Asia were encouraged after the Standard & Poor's 500 index — a key US market measure — broke through the 1,000-point level for the first time since November. A trade group said American manufacturing might improve next month for the first time since early 2008.

Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 index rose 22.54, or 0.2 per cent, to a 10-month high of 10,375.01 amid a smaller-than-expected quarterly loss from Toyota, the world's top automaker. Hong Kong's Hang Seng index slipped 10.83, or 0.1 per cent, to 20,796.43 in back and forth trade while South Korea's Kospi rose 0.1 per cent to 1,566.37.

"Investors are in an even more upbeat mood because of the very strong performance on Wall Street," said Dariusz Kowalczyk, chief investment strategist for SJS Markets in Hong Kong.

China's Shanghai Composite Index, which initially fell after regulators announced a review of bank capital adequacy as they try to cool a credit boom, closed up 8.85 points, or 0.3 percent, at 3,471.44.

"Investors are getting more and more certain the economy is reviving, and the buying sentiment is strong," said Mao Sheng, an analyst for Huaxi Securities in the western city of Chengdu.

Elsewhere, Australia's benchmark rose 1.1 per cent while Singapore's market measure dropped 0.9 per cent and Taiwan's Taiex fell 1.4 per cent. As trading got underway in Europe, benchmarks in Britain, Germany and France were down 0.5 per cent or more.

BHP Billiton Ltd., the world's biggest miner, was up two per cent in Sydney after prices for copper, tin,

aluminum and other metals gained Monday. Rival Rio Tinto Ltd. was up 4.3 per cent. Commodities trading house Mitsubishi Corp. climbed 2.1 per cent in Tokyo and Sumitomo Corp. jumped 3.7 per cent.

"Our region is very sensitive to developments in commodities prices and commodities gained sharply," Kowalczyk said.

Toyota shares fell 1.3 per cent in Tokyo. The automaker reported a smaller-than-expected 77.82 billion yen (\$819 million) quarterly loss (see full story on page 3B) and expects less red ink for the full year even as it battles plunging sales and a strong yen.

Wall Street's big indexes all rose more than one per cent on Monday, including the Dow Jones industrial average, which climbed 115 points. Better corporate earnings pushed the Dow Jones average up 725 points in July to its best month in nearly seven years.

The Institute for Supply Management, a trade group

of purchasing executives, said US manufacturing should increase next month for the first time since January 2008 as industrial companies restock shelves.

The Commerce Department said US construction spending rose rather than fell in June as analysts had expected. The reports and rising commodity prices lifted energy and material stocks.

Ford Motor Co. said its sales rose 1.6 per cent in July, its first monthly gain in nearly two years.

Oil prices stayed above \$70 in Asia on expectations a global recovery will boost demand for crude. Benchmark crude for September delivery fell \$1.13 to \$70.45 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. On Monday, the contract rose 67 cents to \$70.12.

In currency markets, the dollar fell to 94.85 yen from 95.22.

The euro fell to \$1.4397 from \$1.4410 late Monday in New York.

NOTICE

IN THE ESTATE OF DOROTHY FORGIE EVANS late of #17 London Terrace, Eastern District, New Providence, Bahamas, deceased

NOTICE is hereby given that all persons having claims or demands against the above-named Estate are requested to send the same duly certified to the undersigned on or before 9th August 2009.

AND NOTICE is hereby also given that at the expiration of the time mentioned above, the assets of the late DOROTHY FORGIE EVANS will be distributed among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims of which the Executor of the Estate shall then have had Notice.

GRAHAM, THOMPSON & CO.
Attorneys for the Executors
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BUSINESS

Spending inches up in June, despite income drop

By CHRISTOPHER S RUGABER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — As gasoline prices rose, Americans spent more in June than the previous month — despite falling incomes. For the rest of the year, economists expect falling wages and rising unemployment to act as a drag on spending.

Consumer spending is closely watched because it accounts for about 70 per cent of total economic activity and has helped lift the economy out of previous recessions. While analysts expect the economy to grow in the second half of this year, consumers aren't likely to lead the way.

Americans boosted their spending 0.4 per cent in June, the Commerce Department said Tuesday, the second consecutive monthly increase. But adjusting for inflation, spending fell 0.1 per cent, following a flat reading in May. Inflation-adjusted spending hasn't increased since February, the department said.

Personal income, meanwhile, dropped 1.3 per cent

in June, the eighth straight decline and steepest fall in four years. Incomes were inflated in May due to one-time payments from the Obama administration's stimulus programme. But wages and salaries also fell 0.4 per cent in June.

"The key message is that ... income remains weak" and consumers are likely to keep saving more, Paul Dales, US economist at Capital Economics, wrote in a note to clients. "Under those circumstances, we expect spending to remain muted for some time."

Consumer spending may increase in July and August due to the government's "cash-for-clunkers" programme, economists said, but will likely level off afterward. The programme has spurred thousands of Americans to trade in old cars for newer vehicles.

"When given sufficient incentive, as in cash-for-clunkers, consumers will spend," said Nigel Gault, chief US economist for consulting firm IHS Global Insight. "But reduced wealth, high debt, tight credit and a weakening



IN THIS July 31, 2009 photo, customers pay for their purchases at the check out counter of the new JCPenney store in the Manhattan Mall during the grand opening in New York. Consumers opened their wallets and pocketbooks a bit more in June, increasing their spending for the second straight month while saving a bit less, even as incomes fell sharply...

(AP Photo: Mary Altaffer)

labour market are all weighing on consumers."

Gas prices peaked June 22 after rising nearly every day for two months. A price index included in the income and spending report showed overall prices rose 0.5 per cent in June, but were up only 0.2 per

cent when food and energy are excluded.

Still, the housing market continued to show signs of life as pending US home sales rose in June for the fifth straight month, according to the National Association of Realtors. The group's pending

home sales index rose more than expected to 94.6, from an upwardly revised reading of 91.3 in May. The last time there were five straight monthly gains was July 2003.

Americans are saving more as they seek to rebuild their nest eggs, which have been hammered by falling home values and stock portfolios amid the longest recession since World War II. While saving can be good in the long run, rapid increases can slow the economy.

A key question is how high the savings rate will climb. The department said Tuesday the personal savings rate fell to 4.6 per cent in June, after

jumping to 6.2 per cent in May, which was the highest since February 1995. The rate dropped briefly below 1 per cent last year and some economists say it could hit eight or nine per cent by early 2010.

But the department also revised its spending and income data back to 1929, as it did last week when it reported second-quarter gross domestic product, the broadest measure of the economy's output. The changes show that Americans saved more than previously thought earlier this decade.

Bolstered by the consumer spending and housing reports, investors continued a rally that has sent stocks up 14 per cent since July 10. The Dow Jones industrial average added nearly 34 points to 9,320.19, and broader indices also edged up.

The government reported last week that the overall economy, as measured by the GDP, shrank at an annual rate of one per cent in the second quarter, far less severe than the 6.4 per cent decline in the first quarter and a 5.4 per cent decline in the fourth quarter of 2008.

But even as the recession bottoms out, economists expect unemployment to keep rising from its current rate of 9.5 per cent to 10 per cent or higher by the end of the year.

The Labour Department is scheduled to issue its July employment report Friday. Economists expect the report will show the jobless rate rose to 9.6 per cent as employers cut 320,000 jobs last month, better than the 467,000 lost in June.

Sluggish consumer spending has held back the sales of food and beverage companies. Tyson Foods Inc., the world's largest meat producer, said Monday that sales fell three per cent in its third quarter. The company posted a strong profit due to cost cuts.

And sales for MillerCoors, the US joint venture owned by Molson Coors Brewing Co. and SABMiller, increased by only one per cent in the most recent quarter, Molson Coors reported Monday.

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52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Security	Previous Close	Today's Close	Change	Daily Vol.	EPS \$	Div \$	P/E	Yield
1.81	1.28	Abaco Markets	1.39	1.39	0.00	0.127	0.000	10.9	0.00%	
11.80	10.00	Bahamas Property Fund	11.00	11.00	0.00	0.992	0.200	11.1	1.82%	
9.30	6.94	Bank of Bahamas	6.94	6.94	0.00	0.244	0.260	28.4	3.75%	
0.89	0.63	Benchmark	0.63	0.63	0.00	-0.877	0.000	N/M	0.00%	
3.49	3.15	Bahamas Waste	3.15	3.15	0.00	0.078	0.090	40.4	2.86%	
2.37	2.14	Fidelity Bank	2.37	2.37	0.00	0.055	0.040	43.1	1.69%	
14.20	10.18	Cable Bahamas	11.39	11.39	0.00	400	1.406	2.50	8.1	2.19%
2.88	2.74	Colina Holdings	2.74	2.74	0.00	236	0.249	0.040	11.0	1.46%
7.50	5.50	Commonwealth Bank (S1)	5.71	5.71	0.00	0.419	0.360	13.6	6.30%	
4.78	1.27	Consolidated Water BDRs	3.51	3.60	0.09	0.111	0.052	32.4	1.44%	
2.85	1.32	Doctor's Hospital	1.82	1.82	0.00	0.240	0.080	7.6	4.40%	
8.20	6.60	Famguard	6.60	6.60	0.00	0.420	0.240	15.7	3.64%	
12.50	10.00	Finco	10.79	10.79	0.00	0.322	0.520	33.5	4.82%	
11.71	10.34	FirstCaribbean Bank	10.34	10.34	0.00	0.794	0.350	13.0	3.38%	
5.53	4.95	Focol (S)	5.13	5.13	0.00	0.332	0.150	15.5	2.92%	
1.00	1.00	Focol Class B Preference	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.000	0.000	N/M	0.00%	
0.45	0.30	Freeport Concrete	0.30	0.30	0.00	0.035	0.000	8.6	0.00%	
9.02	5.50	ICD Utilities	5.49	5.49	0.00	0.407	0.500	13.5	9.11%	
12.00	10.39	J. S. Johnson	10.39	10.39	0.00	0.952	0.640	10.9	6.16%	
10.00	10.00	Premier Real Estate	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.180	0.000	55.6	0.00%	

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52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Security	Symbol	Last Sale	Change	Daily Vol.	Interest	Maturity
1000.00	1000.00	Fidelity Bank Note 17 (Series A) +	FBB17	100.00	0.00	7%		19 October 2017
1000.00	1000.00	Fidelity Bank Note 22 (Series B) +	FBB22	100.00	0.00	Prime + 1.75%		19 October 2022
1000.00	1000.00	Fidelity Bank Note 13 (Series C) +	FBB13	100.00	0.00	7%		30 May 2013
1000.00	1000.00	Fidelity Bank Note 15 (Series D) +	FBB15	100.00	0.00	Prime + 1.75%		29 May 2015

Fidelity Over-The-Counter Securities

52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Symbol	Bid \$	Ask \$	Last Price	Weekly Vol.	EPS \$	Div \$	P/E	Yield
14.60	14.25	Bahamas Supermarkets	7.92	8.42	14.60		-0.041	0.300	N/M	2.05%
8.00	6.00	Caribbean Crossings (Pref)	4.00	6.25	6.00		0.000	0.480	N/M	7.80%
0.54	0.20	RND Holdings	0.35	0.40	0.35		0.001	0.000	256.6	0.00%

Colina Over-The-Counter Securities

41.00	29.00	ABDAB	30.13	31.59	29.00		4.540	0.000	9.03	0.00%
0.55	0.40	RND Holdings	0.45	0.55	0.55		0.002	0.000	261.90	0.00%

BISX Listed Mutual Funds

52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Fund Name	NAV	YTD%	Last 12 Months	Div \$	Yield %	NAV Date
1.3860	1.3231	CFAL Bond Fund	1.3860	2.40	4.75			30-Jun-09
3.0351	2.8952	CFAL MSI Preferred Fund	2.8952	-1.52	-3.18			30-Jun-09
1.4804	1.4042	CFAL Money Market Fund	1.4804	3.26	5.34			24-Jul-09
3.6090	3.1031	Fidelity Bahamas G & I Fund	3.1031	-8.35	-13.82			30-Jun-09
12.9801	12.3289	Fidelity Prime Income Fund	12.9801	2.87	5.79			31-May-09
101.6693	100.0000	CFAL Global Bond Fund	101.6693	1.10	1.67			30-Jun-09
100.9600	93.1992	CFAL Global Equity Fund	96.7398	0.35	-4.18			30-Jun-09
1.0000	1.0000	CFAL High Grade Bond Fund	1.0000	0.00	0.00			31-Dec-07
9.4733	9.0775	Fidelity International Investment Fund	9.2765	2.00	-2.98			30-Jun-09
1.0622	1.0000	FG Financial Preferred Income Fund	1.0622	2.56	6.22			30-Jun-09
1.0364	1.0000	FG Financial Growth Fund	1.0243	-0.84	2.43			30-Jun-09
1.0585	1.0000	FG Financial Diversified Fund	1.0585	2.04	5.85			30-Jun-09

MARKET TERMS

BISX ALL SHARE INDEX - 19 Dec 02 = 1,000.00
 52wk-Hi - Highest closing price in last 52 weeks
 52wk-Low - Lowest closing price in last 52 weeks
 Previous Close - Previous day's weighted price for daily volume
 Today's Close - Current day's weighted price for daily volume
 Change - Change in closing price from day to day
 Daily Vol. - Number of total shares traded today
 DIV \$ - Dividends per share paid in the last 12 months
 P/E - Closing price divided by the last 12 month earnings
 (S) - 4-for-1 Stock Split - Effective Date 8/8/2007
 (S1) - 3-for-1 Stock Split - Effective Date 7/11/2007

YIELD - Last 12 month dividends divided by closing price
 Bid \$ - Buying price of Colina and Fidelity
 Ask \$ - Selling price of Colina and Fidelity
 Last Price - Last traded over-the-counter price
 Weekly Vol. - Trading volume of the prior week
 EPS \$ - A company's reported earnings per share for the last 12 mths
 NAV - Net Asset Value
 N/M - Not Meaningful
 FINDEX - The Fidelity Bahamas Stock Index. January 1, 1994 = 100

TO TRADE CALL: COLINA 242-502-7010 | ROYALFIDELITY 242-356-7764 | FG CAPITAL MARKETS 242-396-4000 | COLONIAL 242-502-7525

NOTICE
NOTICE is hereby given that **KELLY ETIENNE of PALMETTO POINT, ELEUTHERA, 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 **29th day of July, 2009** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

NOTICE
NOTICE is hereby given that **MARY CATHERINE ANDREWS SCHLEI of 14 BONNEY WAY, P.O. BOX N-44, 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 **29th day of July, 2009** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

NOTICE
NOTICE is hereby given that **LEANARDO JOVANNA FORBES of PINE DALE, EIGHT MILE ROCK, GRAND BAHAMA, 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 **29th day of JULY, 2009** to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, P.O.Box N-7147, Freeport, Bahamas.

NOTICE
NOTICE is hereby given that **RENFORD DAVSON of 38 GOLDEN GATES #1, P.O. BOX CR-56154, 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 **29th day of July, 2009** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

THE WEATHER REPORT



INSURANCE MANAGEMENT

(BAHAMAS) LIMITED. INSURANCE BROKERS & AGENTS

5-DAY FORECAST

TODAY

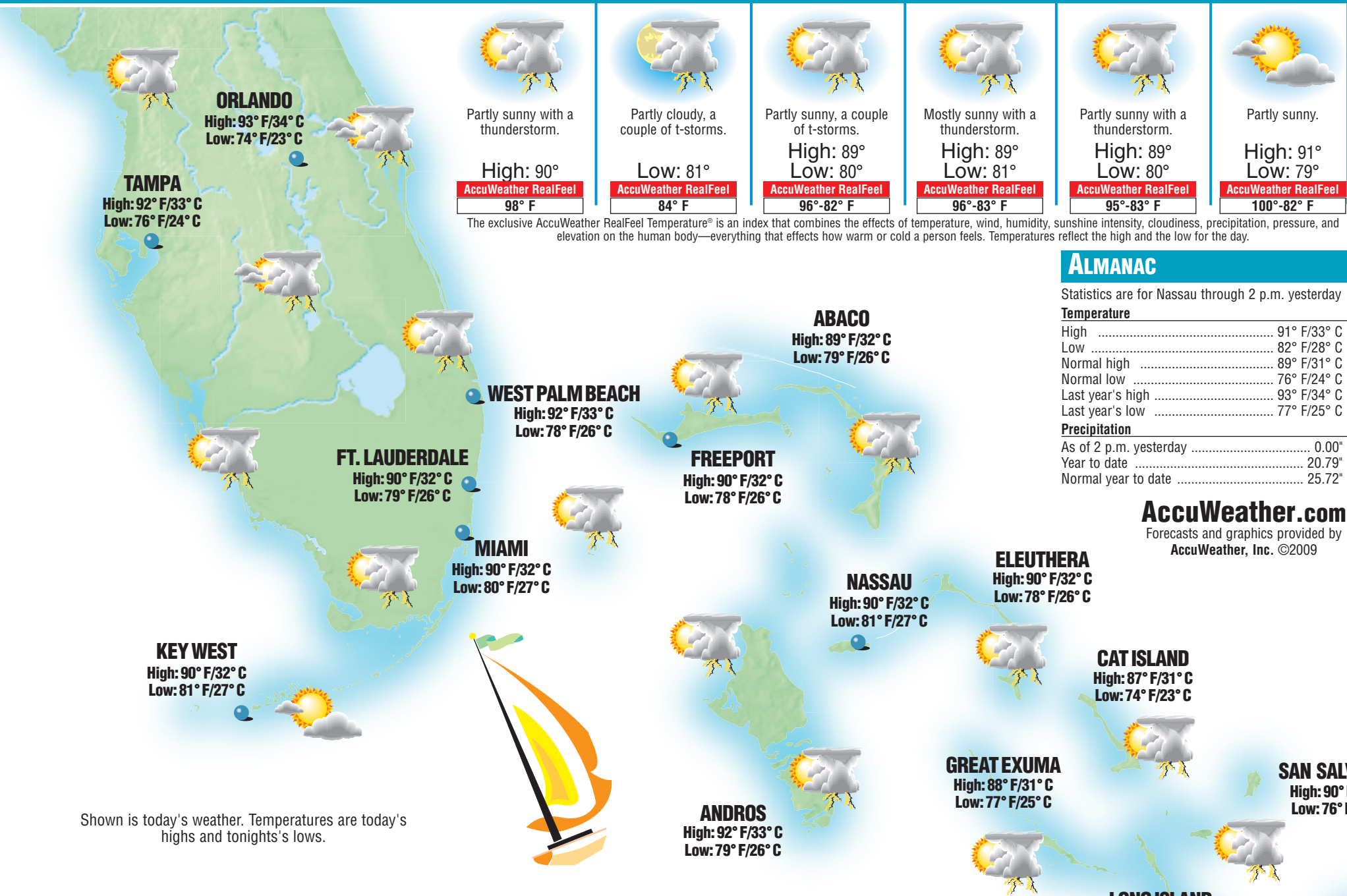
TONIGHT

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

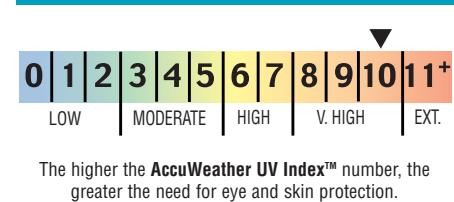
SATURDAY

SUNDAY



Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

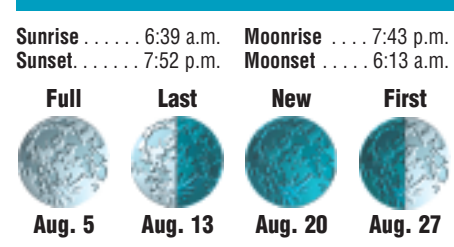
UV INDEX TODAY



TIDES FOR NASSAU

	High	Ht. (ft.)	Low	Ht. (ft.)
Today	8:08 a.m.	2.5	2:05 a.m.	0.3
	8:31 p.m.	2.9	2:07 p.m.	0.3
Thursday	8:46 a.m.	2.6	2:41 a.m.	0.2
	9:06 p.m.	2.8	2:47 p.m.	0.3
Friday	9:22 a.m.	2.7	3:15 a.m.	0.2
	9:40 p.m.	2.8	3:25 p.m.	0.3
Saturday	9:57 a.m.	2.7	3:48 a.m.	0.2
	10:14 p.m.	2.7	4:03 p.m.	0.3

SUN AND MOON



ALMANAC

Statistics are for Nassau through 2 p.m. yesterday

Temperature

High 91° F/33° C
 Low 82° F/28° C
 Normal high 89° F/31° C
 Normal low 76° F/24° C
 Last year's high 93° F/34° C
 Last year's low 77° F/25° C

Precipitation

As of 2 p.m. yesterday 0.00"
 Year to date 20.79"
 Normal year to date 25.72"

AccuWeather.com
Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2009

WORLD CITIES

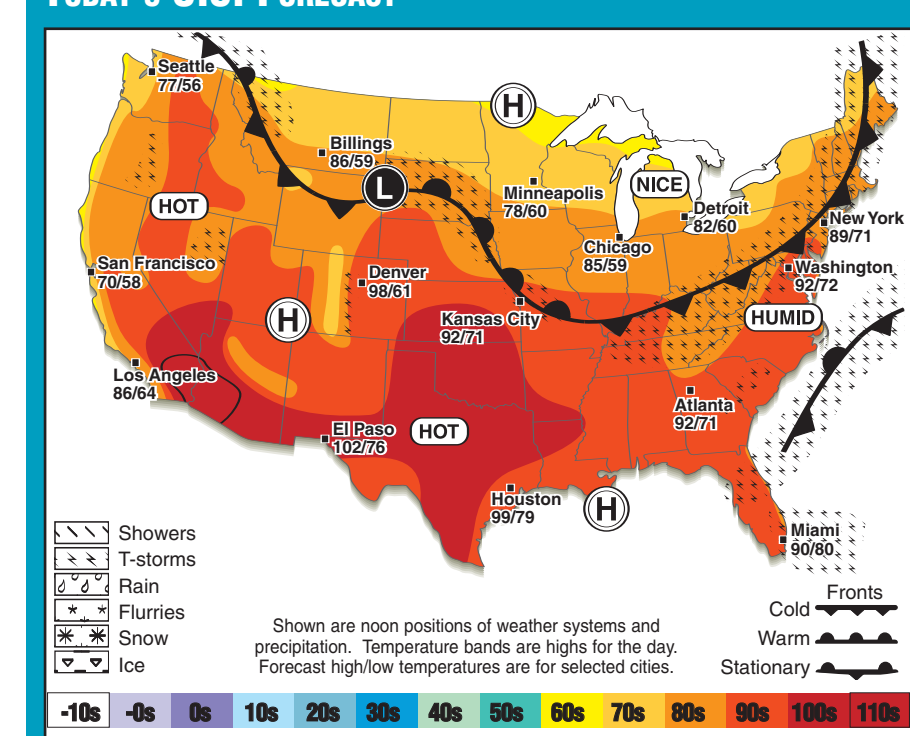
	Today			Thursday		
	High F/C	Low F/C	W	High F/C	Low F/C	W
Acapulco	95/35	77/25	s	92/33	76/24	t
Amsterdam	77/25	63/17	pc	81/27	63/17	pc
Ankara, Turkey	88/31	57/13	s	90/32	59/15	pc
Athens	93/33	73/22	s	90/32	75/23	s
Auckland	59/15	47/8	s	59/15	47/8	s
Bangkok	91/32	77/25	sh	90/32	78/25	r
Barbados	87/30	77/25	pc	86/30	77/25	sh
Barcelona	81/27	67/19	s	81/27	69/20	s
Beijing	91/32	73/22	pc	93/33	73/22	s
Beirut	84/28	78/25	s	81/27	76/24	s
Belgrade	83/28	67/19	t	82/27	64/17	r
Berlin	76/24	58/14	s	79/26	62/16	s
Bermuda	83/28	75/23	pc	81/27	74/23	pc
Bogota	67/19	46/7	c	65/18	46/7	c
Brussels	83/28	61/16	pc	84/28	64/17	pc
Budapest	82/27	68/20	t	84/28	59/15	sh
Buenos Aires	57/13	45/7	pc	55/12	41/5	s
Cairo	102/38	75/23	s	100/37	76/24	s
Calcutta	97/36	87/30	r	94/34	85/29	t
Calgary	58/14	48/8	r	63/17	48/8	c
Cancun	90/32	75/23	t	92/33	75/23	sh
Caracas	79/26	70/21	t	81/27	72/22	t
Casablanca	85/29	68/20	s	82/27	65/18	s
Copenhagen	77/25	60/15	s	78/25	62/16	s
Dublin	64/17	50/10	sh	63/17	52/11	sh
Frankfurt	82/27	57/13	s	86/30	63/17	s
Geneva	82/27	57/13	s	85/29	62/16	s
Halifax	72/22	59/15	s	75/23	57/13	s
Havana	91/32	73/22	pc	88/31	74/23	t
Helsinki	75/23	55/12	pc	73/22	52/11	s
Hong Kong	91/32	81/27	r	90/32	82/27	t
Islamabad	109/42	85/29	s	108/42	83/28	s
Istanbul	88/31	73/22	s	87/30	72/22	s
Jerusalem	89/31	64/17	s	88/31	62/16	s
Johannesburg	68/20	46/7	s	71/21	44/6	s
Kingston	88/31	77/25	t	89/31	79/26	r
Lima	72/22	59/15	s	72/22	58/14	s
London	73/22	59/15	sh	75/23	57/13	pc
Madrid	99/37	64/17	s	97/36	63/17	pc
Manila	83/28	77/25	t	83/28	78/25	t
Mexico City	75/23	55/12	t	76/24	54/12	pc
Monterrey	102/38	75/23	s	102/38	74/23	s
Montreal	75/23	57/13	s	72/22	57/13	pc
Moscow	73/22	52/11	sh	73/22	50/10	pc
Munich	78/25	52/11	s	83/28	53/11	s
Nairobi	77/25	54/12	c	79/26	53/11	r
New Delhi	99/37	82/27	pc	100/37	81/27	pc
Oslo	73/22	55/12	s	75/23	59/15	pc
Paris	84/28	64/17	pc	88/31	66/18	pc
Prague	78/25	56/13	pc	83/28	58/14	s
Rio de Janeiro	80/26	71/21	pc	87/30	72/22	pc
Riyadh	104/40	79/26	s	104/40	81/27	s
Rome	86/30	65/18	s	88/31	68/20	s
St. Thomas	88/31	79/26	pc	88/31	81/27	r
San Juan	63/17	33/0	s	54/12	39/3	c
San Salvador	88/31	70/21	pc	87/30	74/23	t
Santiago	59/15	34/1	pc	59/15	37/2	c
Santo Domingo	91/32	74/23	pc	85/29	74/23	sh
Sao Paulo	77/25	61/16	pc	80/26	57/13	s
Seoul	84/28	73/22	c	86/30	75/23	pc
Stockholm	73/22	55/12	pc	75/23	55/12	pc
Sydney	68/20	50/10	s	70/21	52/11	pc
Taipei	91/32	80/26	sh	91/32	81/27	pc
Tokyo	86/30	79/26	c	86/30	77/25	r
Toronto	75/23	54/12	s	75/23	54/12	pc
Trinidad	91/32	68/20	s	95/35	66/18	s
Vancouver	71/21	58/14	s	73/22	58/14	pc
Vienna	78/25	64/17	pc	82/27	63/17	s
Warsaw	74/23	57/13	sh	79/26	59/15	sh
Winnipeg	69/20	52/11	pc	74/23	55/12	pc

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice, Prcp-precipitation, Tr-trace

MARINE FORECAST

	WINDS	WAVES	VISIBILITY	WATER TEMPS.
NASSAU	Today: E at 6-12 Knots	1-3 Feet	5-7 Miles	86° F
	Thursday: SE at 6-12 Knots	1-3 Feet	5-7 Miles	86° F
FREEPORT	Today: ESE at 6-12 Knots	1-3 Feet	5-7 Miles	85° F
	Thursday: SSE at 6-12 Knots	6-12 Feet	5-7 Miles	85° F
ABACO	Today: SE at 7-14 Knots	2-3 Feet	5-7 Miles	85° F
	Thursday: SE at 7-14 Knots	2-3 Feet	5-7 Miles	85° F

TODAY'S U.S. FORECAST



U.S. CITIES

	Today			Thursday		
	High F/C	Low F/C	W	High F/C	Low F/C	W
Albuquerque	95/35	70/21	pc	97/36	70/21	pc
Anchorage	67/19	54/12	c	68/20	56/13	c
Atlanta	92/33	71/21	t	90/32	73/22	t
Atlantic City	90/32	67/19	t	87/30	64/17	s
Baltimore	90/32	68/20	t	88/31	66/18	pc
Boston	88/31	65/18	t	82/27	64/17	s
Buffalo	76/24	57/13	s	72/22	54/12	s
Charleston, SC	92/33	74/23	t	92/33	75/23	t
Chicago	85/29	59/15	pc	82/27	64/17	pc
Cleveland	80/26	57/13	pc	79/26	59/15	s
Dallas	100/37	78/25	s	101/38	79/26	s
Denver	98/36	61/16	pc	93/33	62/16	pc
Detroit	82/27	60/15	s	80/26	60/15	pc
Honolulu	90/32	77/25	s	89/31	77/25	s
Houston	99/37	79/26	s	99/37	76/24	pc
Indianapolis	88/31	67/19	pc	86/30	68/20	pc
Jacksonville	90/32	72/22	t	92/33	73/22	t
Kansas City	92/33	71/21	t	92/33	76/24	pc
Las Vegas	106/41	80/26	s	103/39	77/25	s
Little Rock	98/36	76/24	pc	98/36	74/23	pc
Los Angeles	86/30	64/17	pc	78/25	64/17	pc
Louisville	92/33	73/22	t	88/31	71/21	s
Memphis	98/36	78/25	t	94/34	77/25	pc
Miami	90/32	80/26	t	90/32	79/26	t
Minneapolis	78/25	60/15	s	77/25	63/17	pc
Nashville	94/34	72/22	t	89/31	72/22	pc
New Orleans	94/34	78/25	t	94/34	78/25	t
New York	89/31	71/21	t	84/28	69/20	s
Oklahoma City	102/38	73/22	s	100/37	73/22	s
Orlando	93/33	74/23	t	92/33	76/24	t
Philadelphia	90/32	70/21	t	86/30	68/20	s
Phoenix	112/44	89/31	pc	112/44	86/30	pc
Pittsburgh	83/28	62/16	t	80/26	60/15	s
Portland, OR	83/28	59/15	pc	80/26	60/15	pc
Raleigh-Durham	94/34	68/20	t	93/33	70/21	pc
St. Louis	92/33	74/23	t	92/33	75/23	t
Salt Lake City	94/34	71/21	pc	94/34	69/20	c
San Antonio	102/38	76/24	s	102/38	75/23	s
San Diego	78/25	66/18	pc	75/23	66/18	pc
San Francisco	70/21	58/14	pc	66/18	55/12	pc
Seattle	77/25	56/13	pc	76/24	56/13	pc
Tallahassee	94/34	72/22	t	94/34	72/22	t
Tampa	92/33	76/24	t	91/32	78/25	t
Tucson	107/41	81/27	s	105/40	80/26	s
Washington, DC	92/33	72/22	t	89/31	70/21	pc

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TASTE

The Tribune

Taste



Johnny Lam, owner of Tropical Gelato Ice Cream Parlor, with one of his many tasty ice cream flavors.

COOL DOWN IN PARADISE

By ALEX MISSICK
Tribune Features Reporter
amissick@tribunemedia.net

AS the summer heat continues to bear down and take its toll everyone is trying to find ways to cool down. This is where tasty summer treats like ice cream come in and Johnny Lam, owner of Tropical Gelato Ice Cream Parlor, located in the Sandy Port Plaza, has been making this treat for almost six years.

Although Mr Lam opened for business in September of 2003, how he got there is a journey all its own.

"I was laid off, after working for almost twenty years in the computer/copier industry, and I decided to become an entrepreneur. I found a spot for rent in the Sandyport plaza as the developers were looking for an ice cream shop, so I started an ice cream shop," Mr Lam said.

As for the unique name of the ice cream parlor, Mr Lam said the word "Gelato" is widely used to represent ice cream made in the ice cream parlours in Italy. "Gelato is distinctively different from traditional ice cream for several key reasons. First, gelato is smoother in texture and taste, secondly, gelato is healthier because of the choice of ingredients, and thirdly, gelato is fresher and more flavourful. Here in the Bahamas, we have access to tropical fruits and vegetation, creating a niche for tropical fruit gelato, hence the name 'Tropical Gelato,'" Mr Lam said.

In all, there are over fifty gelato flavours that are made and sold. Flavours like mango, tamarind, banana nut, soursop, pink guava, passion fruit, pumpkin and strawberry/kiwi seem to be a hit amongst the people who visit Tropical Gelato. There are twenty four to twenty six flavours on display at any given time. The latest creation is peanut butter chip and Mr Lam explained, that the process is not a quick one.

"The first step is to choose which gelato you want to make. There are several varieties of gelato, and infinite flavours, and to add to it, each gelato maker has his or her own unique choices. For example, to make mango gelato, you wait until the mango is aromatic in smell and feels juicy enough to achieve a rich flavour. In lieu of cream and eggs, we use fresh low fat milk, sugar as added sweetener, etc. A careful measurement of each ingredient to ensure the gelato is consistent each time it is made, the flavour is what it was intended (i.e the mango gelato should taste like mango, and the other ingredients should not overpower the mango taste.) All ingredients are mixed to form a consistent thick liquid. The mix is then aged in the refrigerator, usually two to four hours, overnight if time permits. The mix is then frozen to a thick paste. At this point nuts, chips, mango pieces, etc. can be added. There are two options at this point- you can put it in the display freezer for consumption or put it in a hardening freezer for final freezing and storage," Mr Lam said.

Mr Lam said although making ice cream is not his favourite thing to do, he always does it with pride and never quits until he gets it right and encourages others to do the same.

"Doing so enough times, as I have learned, built my foundation to become a successful entrepreneur. I would encourage others to always take pride in what you do. Do not quit, even if it frustrates you. Do not procrastinate, it's a time killer. Be helpful, this is how you learn something. Be honest, it takes less effort and energy than being dishonest. Ever wonder why dishonest people never become successful entrepreneurs? They spend too much time, effort and energy devising the next dishonest thing, so no time is available for becoming successful."



Assortment of flavors at Tropical Gelato.

Worker at Tropical Gelato mixing ingredients.



entertainment

things
2DO

FIND out what you need to know about entertainment this week in *The Tribune's* Things to Do countdown.

1. Summer-fest 2009 is just days away, and this year Phat Groove Entertainment and Trapstarz Entertainment are sparing no effort in bringing some of the hottest acts in Caribbean music right here to our shores. Hosted by Natural Empress, the line up includes Alison Hinds, Shurwayne Winchester, and Visage, with special music provided by The Mighty Pencil. This show is going down on Friday at the Wyndham, with doors opening at 9pm, and the event starting at 10pm. For those of you who haven't gotten your tickets, they are still available at The Juke Box at the Mall at Marathon, Grill City, Cell City, Obsessions, and Cinderella Shoe Store for \$25 general admission, and \$50 VIP. Prices will go up on the day the event, so get your tickets early.

2. If you're an artist, producer, entertainer, or entrepreneur, then Mixology 101 is the place for you. Presented by Fiji Water, Kemis.net, Garden of Eden Guesthouse and Villas, and Bacardi, this high profile networking social is designed to bring together the brightest and most successful Bahamians involved in the creation of music, while introducing them to a select group of international personalities that have the know-how to take their visions global. It's all going down this Thursday from the Garden of Eden Guesthouse and Villas starting at 6pm. There will also be official Bacardi mixologists on site. Tickets for the event are \$15 advance and \$20 at the door, and can be purchased from Airbrush Junkies or the Juke Box in the Marathon Mall.

3. The Express Yourself Movement continues with its regular spoken word and improv comedy art show held every Wednesday at the Hub Art Centre on Bay Street. Offering an open mic to those with a message, the event has attracted dozens of locals and visits and is the perfect mid week getaway. This week local artist Xan Xi Bethel is being featured, so come out and experience something new. Admission is just \$5.

4. The Alliance Francaise of the Bahamas is once again presenting a French film as part of its Summer film series. This week it's *Ne Le Dis A Personne*. Directed by Guillaume Canet, the 2006 film is about a pediatrician (Alexandre Beck) who is still missing his beloved wife Margot Beck, who was brutally murdered eight years ago when he was the prime suspect. When two bodies are found near where the corpse of Margot was dumped, the police reopen the case and Alex becomes a suspect again. The mystery increases when Alex receives an e-mail showing Margot older and alive eight years after her supposed death. The film is being shown at the British Colonial Hilton this Friday at 6.30pm. Tickets are \$5, and persons must RSVP through 302.5141.

5. The Bahamas International Film Festival is continuing with its film series with the showing of *The Understudy*. The film is about an unemployed actress (Rebecca) who gets a chance to intern at Electra Records. After a slew of accidents take place on set, Rebecca is suspected of intentionally harming the actors. The film is being shown at Galleria tonight at 8pm. Admission is just \$5.

6. RHYTHMS OF DRUMS, a Mitzie Chipman Production will take place at the Rainforest Theatre Wyndham Resort & Crystal Palace Casino on August 6 and 7. The highly anticipated show will feature performances by John "Chippie" Chipman, mesmerizing dancers including Metellus Chipman & Fontella Chipman-Rolle with guest performances by Ronnie Butler, Tony Seymour Jr and Veronica Bishop. Doors open at 6.30pm with showtime at 8 pm. 8 Tickets are available at The Rainforest Theatre Box Office, The Bahamas Musicians & Entertainers Union and Junkanoo n' Things (kiosk in the Marina Village, Atlantis)-VIP Platinum-\$150 | VIP Gold-\$100 | General-\$75

IT'S INAUGURATION DAY

By LLOYD ALLEN
Tribune Features Reporter
lallen@tribunemedia.net

LOCAL producer Rory Bowe also known as El Padrino has over the years written for some of the biggest names in emerging Bahamian music, and now he has decided to put his skills to the ultimate test with the release of his debut album Inauguration Day.

Best known for his work with artists like Daddy Whitez, Potter the Poet, Tada, and SO\$A MAN, this 28-year-old feels the time has come to add his personal touch to the music industry.

Padrino said like many artists, he spent a large part of his younger years searching for an identity, however all of that changed about ten years ago when he made the move to North Carolina.

"After I had a major court case, that was my cue to get off this rock. I left and went to Orlando first to chill with one of my boys, then I ended up in North Carolina, and that's when I started to move away from the streets and into the studio."

He said as his talent then began to develop, he started building a powerful network of industry mentors and contacts including Mark Middleton (From Blackstreet). Padrino said Middleton was instrumental in showing him the ropes of beat mastering, writing, and producing, which eventually lead to his connection with the artist Young S Dub.

S Dub at the time was one of the biggest selling rap artists in North Carolina, and Padrino said as S Dub's career grew so did his.

Working as a beat master for S Dub, Padrino said he met other music moguls like Pastor Troy, and Russell Simmons. However unfortunately for him, his quick rise to success had come to a plateau which eventually came crashing down when the relationship between him and Dub went sour over a business deal.

Padrino said he realised that the time had come to return home, and in November 2006 he arrived back to Nassau only to discover a music industry with a dying pulse.

"At that time there was no respect for the craft, there were people that were making music, but as far as taking it serious I don't think anyone took it seriously."

"I was happy to be a pioneer in getting people to listen to our music, what I think I brought was a quality of sound, and it's not about not sounding Bahamian but just producing music where everyone can hear what's being said and where the beats are banging from start to finish. Once we started to prove that our music was worth listening to, that's when we got a whole movement behind the music."

On his new album Padrino fuses rap, oldies, contemporary Bahamian, and pop, all creating a sound that he calls his own.

Aptly titled *Inauguration Day*, Padrino said after contributing to so many other artists, the time has come to promote his own record that he hopes will earn its place as one of the best selling Bahamian albums ever.

The album which was partly written and recorded in Freeport, also features Jah Heim, and emerging artist Raquel Oliver.

Despite his growing local success, Padrino said there has been some criticism regarding the authenticity of his music.

He said although many people respect his craft, there are others who see his music as something other than Bahamian.

He argues Bahamian artists and music have over the last few years began to create and embrace a new sound.

It's not just Calypso, Junkanoo, or Rake 'N' Scrape, rather he describes that new sound as a product collaborating all of those elements and other influences.

Being a part of that metamorphosis, Padrino said he can only hope that more Bahamians start to appreciate what he and other artists are doing, and looks forward to the day when artists in the Bahamas are rewarded for their craft.

In stores now, *El Padrino's Inauguration Day* offers just as much bark as it does bite, and is sure to give listeners all that they've been waiting for, and then some.



Popular producer now recording artist El Padrino is breaking new ground with the release of his debut album *Inauguration Day*.



Torrell Glimton/Photo

CEO of Dunamus Soundz Records, founder of the Bahamas Hip Hop Fest and multi-award winning producer/artist Lavar 'Manifest' Parks (left) and Keith Rolle, COO of Anvan Entertainment celebrate the signing of digital distribution deal with the company. Manifest's latest album *Parables* (foreground) has already been seeing an increase in sales in the United States and Caribbean as a result of him being the first Bahamas-based artist to sign with Anvan.

Bahamian hip hop icon Manifest signs digital music distribution deal with Anvan Entertainment

By ARTHIA NIXON

LAVARD 'Manifest' Parks is not yet 30, yet he is considered one of the Caribbean's pioneers of hip hop. The industry icon has been a fixture on the scene for over a decade now collaborating with some of the biggest names in the region and racking up multiple Caribbean Gospel Music Marlin Awards including Song of the Year, Record of the Year and more.

As one of the youngest producers balancing a family, successful label and nationally syndicated radio show in his native Bahamas, the founder of the Bahamas Hip Hop Fest has set the pace for the next generation of hip hoppers through the shining example he's provided with the success of his label Dunamus Soundz Records.

Now Manifest continues his undisputed rise to greatness by becoming the first artist in the region to sign a digital distribution deal with Anvan Entertainment, a digital music distribution company focused on taking Caribbean Gospel Music to the world. The company has access to Integra

Interactive's myMEDIA ConneXion™ touch screen kiosks at well over 700 Christian retail stores throughout the United States, including 350 of these locations having the myMEDIA BurnBar™ media-on-demand kiosk. The kiosks will now carry all Manifest titles enabling shoppers to immediately burn to disc the songs.

Regional Representative and Chief Operations Officer for Anvan Entertainment, Keith Rolle expressed his optimism for working with a prolific talent like Manifest, someone who has already garnered a following in The Caribbean, North America and even as far away as the UK.

"Anyone who hears the music Manifest, & his Dunamus Soundz record label produces, can fully appreciate this diasporic cycle of Hip Hop from The Caribbean to America and back to The Caribbean again," said Rolle. "His work ethic and focus is incredible! I recall when Manifest removed the television from his home because it distracted him from reading his Bible and working on music. He's been faithful in the small things and I

believe that's proven to be the secret of his success. As a result, every project Manifest works on surpasses its predecessor."

According to Mr Rolle, every time Manifest touches the mic he brings a new story, new revelation, and takes risks. This was another reason Mr Rolle was thrilled to work with him.

"Being the first record label to sign with Anvan Entertainment was just another progressive step that reveals the combination of faith, vision and business savvy that's embodied the journey of Manifest and Dunamus Soundz," he added.

"He founded The Caribbean's first hip hop record label and Anvan Entertainment is The Caribbean's first digital music distribution company operating at this level in US retail stores. That's a match only made in Heaven."

Manifest noted that he and his team love new adventures and they are thrilled to spread their message of hip hope through digital downloads.

"We are excited to be reaching such a vast audience," he noted on behalf

of himself, Dunamus Soundz power producer Corridon 'Papa Don' Hanna and the label's executive board. "With myself and Papa Don each welcoming our first child this spring, Anvan gives us the opportunity to reach old and new fans without actually having to physically be there or on the road as often and that's something our wives and babies can appreciate.

"Also, it gives fans the opportunity to come across our music by chance. The thing is, we've all had that experience of sampling new sounds on the digital machines in music stores and this gives people an opportunity to sample *our* sound and get hooked into why we've been consecutively racking up awards for our God-given gifts and talents. Bottom line - it's all going down this summer. Stay close because this thing is about to blow!"

Manifest added that he's looking forward to seeing his music in stores as he travels and to new opportunities. Some of his hits due to be digitised include songs from *Parables* including the smash hiphop duet with opera legend Joanne Callendar, *I Shall Rise*, plus soon to be released songs from the upcoming album *His Life His Mic* and more. The songs will be available for download by in summer 2009.

ARTS



AT Emerald Palms exists the hospitality all Bahamian resorts and hotels should be known for.

A true jewel in Andros

The Emerald Palm Resort is a refreshing experience

By CHESTER ROBARDS

THE BEST CONCIERGE in the world can get you anything you want, from the most exclusive restaurant reservation to that soft brand of nose tissue not sold in the hotel's sundries store, but what concierge will step on the back of a black crab while you conquer your first crab-catch?

There are no formal, badged concierges at the Emerald Palms Resort in Driggs, Hill Andros and you won't find white gloved door men brandishing umbrellas and maps - out of the gate it's either a left or a right and the road seldom deviates.

At Emerald Palms exists the hospitality all Bahamian resorts and hotels should be known for... but alas oft are not!

From the cool welcome drink of tangy guava punch to the warm front desk reception, the resort's staff engenders cordiality.

The owner of Emerald Palms can be seen continually throughout the day tending to the general upkeep of the property and in between, chatting with guests about the day's activities.

He almost seems the mayor of a 10 acre city.

The property sits on lush acreage with 22 pastel coloured cottages nestled in a thick of coconut trees.

Each cottage invites romance with a raised king sized bed peering out at the Horizon through the entrance's double doors. The kiddies were not left out at Emerald Palms, with 10 of the cottages outfitted with a second bedroom.

Italian marble floors, canopies and Jacuzzi tubs all accent the quaintly romantic villas.

Next to the property's pool are 18 club house rooms all with their own porches and all with a view of the beautiful East Andros shore that spills out into the tongue of the ocean and one of Bahamas' most beautiful reef systems.

Those reefs can be accessed by canoes kept on Emerald Palm's property for guest use. Even when rough surf threatens a beach day one can simply canoe out to a sand bank far from breaking waves - but be sure to carry a good buddy.

On property guests can also borrow bicycles and ride to the Northern shore of the Southern end of South Andros.

Along the way, on the left side of the road, is a small rest stop called 'Muddasick' Bar. The pro-



Chester Robards/Photo

CATCHING crabs is one of the many native activities you can enjoy while staying at the Emerald Palm Resort in Andros.

prietors constructed a bar out of pine and thatch, where they serve up some of the best conch salad that side of the reef and the owners constantly tell fables about Andros and about each other.

One cloudless night with more stars shining that can ever be seen in Nassau, an impromptu party broke out at Muddsick Bar, with all of Emerald Palms' guests and owner sharing in fresh spoils of the sea caught by three of those same

guests and cooked by Muddasick's staff. That is indeed the magic of the island.

The journey to Driggs Hill takes a speedy 15 minute plane ride from Nassau into Congo Town Airport then just a five minute drive from there.

Emerald Palm's allure blends with charming settlement without the social borders that seem to be understated at large city resorts. This resort is truly a home away from home...

entertainment BRIEFS

Spielberg to be awarded Philadelphia Liberty Medal

PHILADELPHIA

FILMMAKER Steven Spielberg will be awarded Philadelphia's 2009 Liberty Medal for his artistic and humanitarian achievements on Oct. 8, according to the Associated Press.

The National Constitution Center made the announcement Tuesday.

Spielberg's films include "Schindler's List," "Saving Private Ryan" and "The Color Purple." He has also established a foundation to produce video and oral histories of Holocaust survivors. The center says Spielberg will donate the award's \$100,000 cash prize to that organization, Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation.

The medal was established in 1988 to honor those whose actions represent the founding principles of the United States. Previous winners have included Bono, Afghanistan President Hamid Karzai and former U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

Detroit man charged with threatening Jerome Bettis

DETROIT

A DETROIT man has been charged with sending letters threatening to kill celebrities, including former football star Jerome Bettis, according to the Associated Press.

A criminal complaint filed Tuesday alleges Leon Desmond Barrett sent more than a dozen letters between December 2006 and April of this year to the Pro Football Hall of Fame, NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell and the University of Notre Dame.

In some letters, the government says Barrett wrote he was getting ready to kill the former Steelers and Rams running back, as well as music performers Beyonce and Jay-Z.

Barrett denies sending threatening letters.

He tells The Associated Press he has had a dispute with Bettis for seven years and has written to various people about the dispute.

Naomi Sims, among first black models, dies at 61

NEW YORK

NAOMI SIMS, the barrier-breaking African-American fashion model who in 1968 became the first black model to appear on the cover of Ladies' Home Journal, has died. She was 61, according to the Associated Press.

Sims, said by some to be the first black supermodel, died Saturday of cancer in Newark, New Jersey, her son Bob Findlay told The New York Times. It had been decades since she left the runway to become an author and launch her own beauty empire.

Sims attained success at the same time that the "Black is Beautiful" movement was taking hold, and her accomplishments helped pave the way for the black runway stars of the 1970s, including Pat Cleveland, Alva Chinn and Beverly Johnson.

Sims often spoke of her difficult start — as a gangly foster-care kid in Pittsburgh who towered over the other children in her school. In 1966, she came to New York City to attend the Fashion Institute of Technology on scholarship.

When she began approaching modeling agencies, she was turned down again and again — with some telling her that her skin was too dark. Instead of giving up, she pushed forward and approached photographers directly.

book REVIEW

WHEN A HEART TURNS ROCK SOLID

"WHEN a Heart Turns Rock Solid" (Pantheon Books, 397 pages, \$29.95), by Timothy Black: A window into the lives of three Puerto Rican brothers slides open during their teenage years, affording readers a raw glimpse of their struggles with love, drugs and violence in a sociological study that spans nearly two decades.

We learn how Sammy Rivera does lines of coke in his sixth-grade classroom; how his older brother Fausto watches as an inmate eviscerates another with his bare hands; how the eldest brother, Julio, is the glue that holds the family together.

"When a Heart Turns Rock Solid" succeeds because author Timothy Black makes readers care about his subjects — or at least their stories — which are presented in a somewhat sympathetic light. Although Black relies heavily on dry data to explain how impoverished communities are affected by economic and political forces, the story of the three brothers remains captivating.

Despite enduring racist attitudes toward Puerto Ricans and a meager high school education, the brothers achieve varying degrees of sobriety, discipline and

self-love as they grow up in Springfield, Mass., in the 1990s.

They occasionally abandon street life when they discover a sense of purpose through family, women or work.

"I know how you must feel about your teaching," Sammy tells the author as he attends culinary school, "because now I'm feeling passionate about something like you."

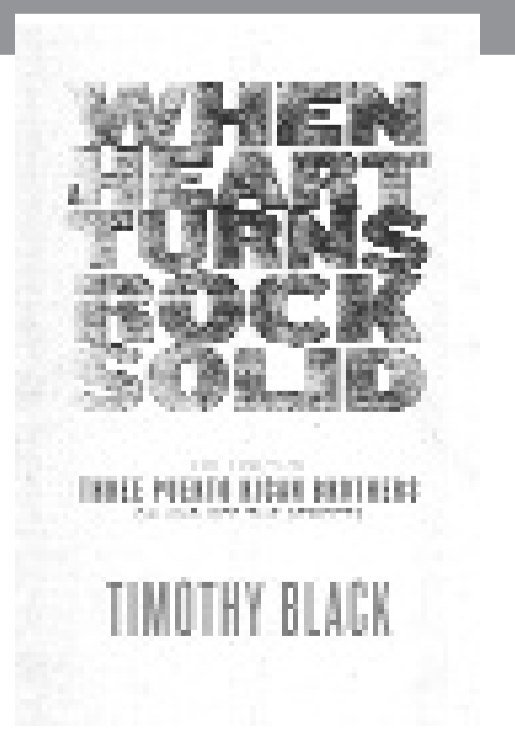
Julio is the most accomplished, earning accolades as a high school wrestler and football player. He becomes the first of the family to graduate from high school, and manages to build a solid street credibility. Few mess with the trained boxer and ruthless gang member.

Fausto seeks to emulate his older brother's successes, but flunking grades encouraged by a system that pushes him to the next grade level despite his near-illiteracy prevents him from joining any sports team.

However, his charisma and intellectual capacity override his shortcomings.

He is tapped at the last minute to give a speech at school, prompting his teacher to praise his poise and confidence. He also thrives at his job with the Boys Club, where his supervisor describes him as a "god-send."

But he later struggles to fill out an application to work there again, embarrassed to let anyone know he can barely read or write.



IN THIS book cover image released by Pantheon Books, "When a Heart Turns Rock Solid: The Lives of Three Puerto Rican Brothers On and Off the Streets," is shown.



**Cool down
in paradise**

See page six

**El Padrino releases
debut album**

See page seven



The
Arts

The Tribune SECTION B •

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2009

Miss Universe comes to
NABBG

By LLOYD ALLEN
Tribune Features Reporter
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AS the excitement level for the Miss Universe Pageant builds, the National Art Gallery of the Bahamas (NAGB) is making its final preparations to showcase the country's premier art gallery to the contestants who will be touring the West Hill Street complex this Thursday.



According to Erica James, NAGB Director and Chief Curator, the property and employees are all prepared for the upcoming event which will help to introduce the contestants to the Bahamas through art and artifacts that date as far back as the nineteenth century.

Mrs James explained: "We are pleased to host the ladies on Thursday, we are going to be giving them a tour of the gallery, the collections that we currently have on display, and tell them a little about the history of the building and the space.

"The visit is expected to run for about an hour during which time we also have a short reception for them and hopefully some photographs at the gallery."

Mrs James said the gallery should offer a wonderful experience to the ladies as it currently features an exhibition by Kendra Frorup on its first floor in an area known as the Inner Temple. There is also an exhibition on display by print maker Maxwell Taylor titled Paperwork.

The gallery's permanent collection includes work by an eclectic mix of local artists including Brent Malone, Stan Burnside, Wellington Bridgewater, and Antonius Roberts.

Apart from the tour of the gallery, the contestants are also scheduled to make a courtesy call to the Governor General, visit the Moriah Harbour Cay and Elizabeth Harbour on Stocking Island, and visit Grand Bahama and Abaco. Visits to Adastra Gardens and Zoo, and the Clifton Heritage Site are also planned.

With a number of pageant events slated to take place throughout the country, the Miss Universe competition will truly prove a moment in history for the Bahamas.

STAFF at the National Art Gallery are preparing to welcome the Miss Universe contestants with a tour of the facilities culminating with a special reception tomorrow.