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## 2009 QUEEN'S HONOURS

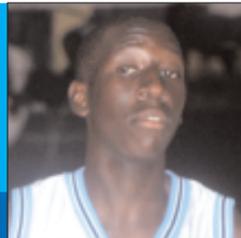
SEE OUR PICTURE SPECIAL ON PAGE 2



SPORTS

**ATHLETE DIES DURING PRACTICE**

SEE PAGE NINE



COMING SOON



# THIS COULD BE WORTH \$50

# Detainee plan sparks debate

## Shooting victim in serious condition

BY DENISE MAYCOCK  
Tribune Freeport Reporter  
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FREETPORT - A security officer who was shot by a gunman at the City Market foodstore in Eight Mile Rock remains in serious condition in hospital.

The shooting occurred on Wednesday sometime around 8.35pm when a gunman attempted to rob the establishment.

Asst Supt Loretta Mackey reported that a security officer was standing outside the foodstore when a masked gunman approached and fired two shots at the front door. According to reports, the suspect was armed with sawn-off shotgun and wore a blue cloth mask.

The suspect entered the store and fired two more shots at the office door, but was unable to gain access to the office. He then fled the scene.

When police arrived they observed shattered glass

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## Detention Centre release of Haitians gets mixed reviews

By TANEKA THOMPSON  
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THE Government's decision to release and grant temporary status to Haitian detainees housed at the Carmichael Road Detention Centre following the Haiti earthquake received mixed reviews yesterday.

The Haitian-Bahamian community heralded the news as a positive humanitarian gesture towards Haitians who may have lost friends, relatives or homes due to the cataclysmic quake.

However, the announcement was also met with opposition from some Bahamians, many who see it as a contradiction of the Department of Immigration's zero-tolerance policy on illegal immigration.

Some also fear there will be an influx of Haitians seeking refuge from their devastated country as news of the Government's plan to grant temporary status to Haitian immigrants spreads.

Officials yesterday were reported to be ironing out the plan's details, processing the Haitian detainees and filling out the necessary paperwork for their release. At last report there were reportedly 100 immigrants in the holding facility, about 70 of them said to be Haitian.

According to Immigration Minister Brent Symonette, the released detainees will be required to report to the Department of Immigration most likely three months after their release.

"They'll be given a fixed period, initially (the temporary status)

**SEE page 11**

## TEMPERS FLARE OVER DOUBLE PARKED BUSES



**DOUBLE PARKED** buses on Bay Street block the left lane as they wait to fill up with passengers.

Felipé Major/Tribune staff

THE relocation of a busy bus stop from in front of the old Straw Market to the eastern end of Bay Street is causing tempers to flare as the left lane of the busy thoroughfare is now constantly blocked by double parked buses, leaving drivers stuck in long lines of traffic.

At peak hours, the pile-up extends the length of Bay Street and beyond, but the authorities seem unable or unwilling to take action.

Angry drivers have noted that two police officers are often seen standing right in front of the new bus stop, but so far have

done nothing about the double parking - or about the fact that some bus drivers remain parked there for several minutes instead of moving on to make room for other buses. The Tribune brought the matter to the attention of a senior police officer earlier this week but so far, nothing has been done.

## Donations pour in to help victims

By MEGAN REYNOLDS  
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DONATIONS have been pouring in at the Bahamas Red Cross Society for the massive relief effort to help those devastated by Tuesday's catastrophic earthquake near Port-au-Prince.

Bags of clothing, towels and blankets have been pouring in at the charity headquarters in John F Kennedy Drive from where they will be sent to Haiti and potentially to Inagua to assist expected refugees in co-ordination with the national relief effort spearheaded by the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA).

The Red Cross has been impressed by the generosity

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### Disaster in HAITI

MAJOR RELIEF EFFORT IN GRAND BAHAMA

PAGE THREE

FAMILIES WORRIED

PAGE THREE

## Psychiatric test ordered in unnatural intercourse case

By NATARIO MCKENZIE  
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PSYCHIATRIC evaluation has been ordered on a man who was convicted of having unnatural intercourse with a 16-year-old boy.

Joseph Sweeting, 48, was accused of having unnatural intercourse with the boy in February 2003. A jury found him guilty last November and he will have to wait several

**SEE page 11**

## Alleged sexual misconduct inquiry hears from witnesses

By DENISE MAYCOCK  
Tribune Freeport Reporter  
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

THE House of Assembly Select Committee to investigate alleged sexual misconduct at the Eight Mile Rock High School convened in Freeport yesterday, hearing from several critical witnesses.

It has been a year since sexual molestation allegations surfaced on Grand Bahama, where several teachers here have been accused of sexual misconduct with students.

Englestone MP Glenys Hanna-Martin, who is the committee chairman, said investiga-

tions will be conducted only into allegations at Eight Mile Rock High.

She said the committee hopes to complete its probe next week and present a report to the House of Assembly on Wednesday, January 20.

Some 10 witnesses were expected to testify yesterday at the Prime Minister's Office.

Pineridge MP Kwasi Thompson, West End and Bimini MP Obie Wilchcombe, and House of Assembly Parliament Clerk Maurice Tynes will hear from various witnesses, including police officers, social workers,

**SEE page seven**

## Andros man, 22, charged with island's first murder

A 22-year-old Andros man appeared before a court yesterday charged with the island's first murder for the year.

Terrell Mackey, 22, of Love Hill, central Andros, was arraigned on the murder charge before Chief Magistrate Roger Gomez in Court 1, Bank Lane.

It is alleged that on Saturday, January 9, he intentionally and unlawfully caused the death of Jer-

**SEE page 11**

## LOCAL NEWS

## GOVERNMENT HOUSE AWARDS PRESENTATION CEREMONY



**CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT** Sylvester George (retired ) received the Queen's Police Medal (OPM) from the Governor General Arthur Hanna yesterday at Government House Ball room.



**SENATOR** Vincent Vanderpool Wallace received the Most Excellent Order Of The British Empire For 2008 (Civil Division )Commander (CBE) from the Governor General Arthur Hanna yesterday at Government House Ball room



**REVEREND ST.**Clair Outten received a British Empire Medal (BEM) from the Governor general Arthur Hanna yesterday at Government House Ball room.



**MR DENNIS TURNQUEST** received a British Empire Medal (BEM) from the Governor general Arthur Hanna yesterday.



**BISHOP** Elgarnet Rahming received the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and St George Companion (CMG) from the Governor general Arthur Hanna yesterday at Government House Ball room.



**CANON** Fritz Goodridge received the Most Excellent Order Of The British Empire (Civil Division)from the Governor general Arthur Hanna .



**MRS AMITA BERNARD** received the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and St George Companion (CMG) from the Governor general Arthur Hanna yesterday at Government House Ball room.



**MR JOHN ROLLE SR** received the Most Excellent Order Of The British Empire (Civil Division) member (MBE) from the Governor general Arthur Hanna yesterday at Government House Ball room.



**MRS SANDRA MOORE** received the Most Excellent Order Of The British Empire (Civil Division) Member (MBE)from the Governor general Arthur Hanna yesterday at Government House Ball room.



**MR HARCOURT TURNQUEST** received the Most Excellent Order Of The British Empire (Civil Division) Officer (OBE)from the Governor general Arthur Hanna yesterday at Government House Ball room.



**BASIL CHRISTIE** received the Most Excellent Order Of The British Empire (Civil Division) member (MBE)from the Governor general Arthur Hanna yesterday at Government House Ball room



**MR GEORGE COX** received the Most Excellent Order Of The British Empire (Civil Division) Officer (OBE) from the Governor general Arthur Hanna yesterday at Government House Ball room.

# 2009 Queen's HONOURS

**T**wenty-three Bahamians were awarded honours by Queen Elizabeth II yesterday in the annual ceremony recognising individuals for their contributions to the political, cultural, intellectual and economic development of their country.

Queen's honours are the highest honours of the nation, granted by Her Majesty the Queen in her role as head of state of the Bahamas. The awards conferred on Bahamians yesterday were awarded by the Queen in her Birthday Honours List 2009.

"An important part of national development is the promotion of a common set of values and the conservation and protection of traditions which help shape our national identity. This is especially important in young nations because much of our culture, traditions and hence our identity were formed during the colonial times when external sources held greater influence than would have indigenous practices," said Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham at the ceremony.

To those honoured, he said: "We acknowledge, thank, applaud and honour all of you for your invaluable contribution to the Bahamas. We recognise you because in your life, you have gone beyond what is ordinary or expected and you have proven to be exceptional and extraordinary in your various fields."

Minister of Tourism, Vincent Vanderpool Wallace, was appointed Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (CBE) (Civil Division).



**PRIME MINISTER** Hubert Ingraham speaks at Government House.

Mr Vanderpool Wallace's award was granted in 2008 prior to his assuming the role of cabinet minister responsible for tourism.

Anita Doreen Bernard, Secretary to the Cabinet, and Bishop Elgarnet Brendan Rahming were appointed Companions of the Most Distinguished Order of St Michael and St George Award (CMG). Mrs Bernard was recognised for her service as an educator and public service administrator, and Bishop Rahming for community outreach efforts and service to the church.

Three individuals were appointed Officers of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (OBE). George Cox was recognised as a role model for young Bahamians in his service as a civil engineer. Lowell Mortimer was recognised for his philanthropy in higher education.

Harcourt Lowell Turnquest was awarded for his career in the public service and diplomatic corps.

"I note that several of those being recognised today were brought to the attention of the government by persons in the community who felt strongly that the work and accomplishment of these individuals was worthy of recognition on a national level. I want to encourage citizens to continue to identify such worthy recipients for future high honour," said Mr Ingraham.

Seven Bahamians were made members of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (MBE). Eight were recognised with the British Empire Medal (Civil Division). One retired senior police officer, Chief Superintendent Sylvester Augustus George, received the Queen's Police Medal.



## GIVE A HAND

### PURCHASE A BIG MAC EXTRA VALUE MEAL AND HELP US HELP HAITI



LOCAL NEWS

# Hooded man may have targeted females three times on Thursday night

## Armed robber alert in eastern New Providence

By ALISON LOWE  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
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A HOODED and armed robber may have struck as many as three times in eastern New Providence Thursday night as his female victims returned home.

Police reported two incidents – one in Tuckaway Road off Village Road and another on Winton Highway – within around an hour of each other involving a man in a “dark hooded jacket” who made his getaway in a red car. Both incidents involved women in their 50s.

Meanwhile, *The Tribune* also received reports of a robbery in Blair in which a woman who had pulled into her driveway with her three-year-old nephew in the car was accosted by a gunman as she was getting out of the vehicle.

She was said to have been hit in

the face with the weapon as she was robbed, leaving her bloodied and bruised. However, Police Sergeant Chrislyn Skippings yesterday said police had received no such report and therefore this could not be confirmed. In what is suspected to have been the first attack on Thursday evening, Nancy Knowles, 52 – mother of Olympic swimmer Jeremy Knowles – said she was turning into her driveway on Winton Highway, at “around 8pm” with her eight month old granddaughter when she noticed a “reddish” car drive beyond her house.

Mrs Knowles was returning from the Supervalu foodstore in Winton.

“I saw the car stop further down the road. I sat there inside the car in the driveway for a few seconds and I thought to myself ‘What can I do?’. I just said ‘No, I’m going to continue’. I pulled into the garage. I guess in the meantime he must’ve got out

of the car and was waiting outside of my garage. I took a whole full minute to get my granddaughter out of my car seat, grabbing my stuff from the car.”

“Then right when he heard the click of the lock of the car, he came around. He was raising his arm with the gun. I had the purse with the diaper bag and I just said ‘Here take it’ and threw it at him. He seemed to be shocked he got it so quick,” said Ms Knowles, who was holding her grand daughter in her arms at the time.

### Accomplice

The man, who was suspected to have been aided by an accomplice, made his getaway in the red car, believed to be a Nissan.

Yesterday the grandmother said she received numerous calls from people who had found her credit

cards and other personal items strewn along Eastern Road.

It is believed the thief dumped the unwanted items, getting away with around \$100, as he was on his way to commit the second hold-up in the Tuckaway area.

A neighbour who was on the scene of the later crime said: “My neighbour had gotten out car to open the gate to her drive. Then she noticed this guy with a hoodie was running towards her. She jumped back in the car and locked the door, but he put gun at her head through the window and said give me the purse. She threw it out and he ran. They got away in a red car.”

The second victim was also able to recover her credit cards after they were found discarded, however the neighbour yesterday complained that the initially lackadaisical police reaction led to a lost chance to quickly net the criminals.

“We were all calling 911 after it

happened, but it rang for six or more minutes before someone finally answered. Then the police officer said ‘If you can’t identify the robber there’s no point sending a patrol car round to you.’ Then (another police officer) whose mother lives two houses down came and he got Superintendent Stephen Dean on the line. About three minutes later the police were there, but that was at about 9.45pm,” said the neighbour.

She suggested this incident occurred at around 7.45pm, however a purse believed to belong to the Winton victim was found on the scene. Both women described the perpetrator as a slim young man, possibly in his teens. According to the Tuckaway victim, he had a light brown complexion.

Police are investigating the incidents, however Sgt Skippings said that as of yesterday afternoon they had no leads as to the whereabouts of the gunman.

### Anxious wait for two families

By DENISE MAYCOCK  
Tribune Freeport Reporter  
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FREEPORT – Two Bahamian families here on Grand Bahama have not heard a word from their relatives in Haiti since Tuesday’s devastating quake.

The family of 31-year-old Lucinda Haven and the family of two-year-old Robin Valdez, are praying and hoping for the safe return of their loved ones to Freeport. Vernell Bauld said that her daughter left Freeport three weeks ago for Haiti. She has been trying desperately to reach her since the earthquake.

“I have been calling her cellular phone but it just keeps ringing. I don’t know where she is or how she is doing, but I just pray that God keeps her,” said the Freeport mother.

According to Ms Bauld, Lucinda went to Haiti to try and get a visa for her husband who was in Haiti at the time. She left her 11-year-old daughter in Freeport.

“I don’t even know if words could describe how I feel right now. My daughter went over there and did not give me an address or nothing,” she said.

Ms Bauld said that the family in Freeport is very worried about her. “God is in control and I am holding on that. I can only trust that He will keep her safe and she will return home soon. It is a tragedy and I pray for everybody.”

International relief-aid has started arriving in Haiti and rescue efforts are currently underway in Port-au-Prince, where thousands are feared dead.

The massive earthquake, which was recorded at 7.1 on the Richter Scale, crushed and toppled concrete buildings in the capital. Many people are still trapped beneath the rubble. Two-year-old Robin Valdez, the nephew of Tanya McCartney, was with his mother in Haiti.

According to reports, the toddler was believed to have been at a hospital at the time of the earthquake. Mrs Valdez, the toddler’s grandmother, said that her son has not been able to make contact with Robin or his mother, in Haiti.

“My son has not been able to reach them. I really don’t feel good about it at all,” she said. Haitian resident Tony Staco said his family and children are in Haiti.

“I have not hear from my brother, sister, and my two children who are in Port-au-Prince.”

## Major relief effort in GB

By DENISE MAYCOCK  
Tribune Freeport Reporter  
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT - A major effort is underway in Grand Bahama to solicit donations of food supplies, and financial aid for the people of Haiti.

Patrice Stubbs, founder of Carry Your Candle, Light The Bahamas, Jetta Baptiste of the Haitian Earthquake Assistance Committee, and Catholic priest, Father Remy David, are appealing to residents here to support the relief efforts.

A bank account at the Bank of the Bahamas has been opened, and several hubs have been designated on the island where residents can drop off food and other supplies.

A ship from Florida is expected to arrive in Freeport on Saturday to pick up supplies earmarked for Haiti.

### Donate

Ms Stubbs said persons can donate clothing, blankets, towels, toiletries, water, building supplies, and pain killers.

She said the items can be dropped off at Love 97 in the Regent Centre and other designated hubs on the island.

“We must be our brother’s keeper, we cannot turn a blind eye to the situation in Haiti. As long we belong to the human race we have an obligation to come to the aid of those who are hurting,” she said.

“We are appealing to everybody in Grand Bahama and the entire Bahamas to donate whatever they can,” she said.

Jetta Baptiste, president of Haitian Bahamian Society, said

### BAHAMIANS REACH OUT TO HAITI



Felipé Major/Tribune staff

RESIDENTS in the Mason Addition Area reach out to their community to help their Caribbean Brothers and sisters in Haiti. People in the area showed support and dropped clothes off to organisers. Stacey Bullard, Audrey Domanny, Katheleen Porter and Anthony Slippery Etienne came up with idea to help some of their friends in the area.



## Disaster in HAITI

financial donations are especially needed.

The Haitian Earthquake Assistance Committee, she said has opened account 5750000244 at the Bank of the Bahamas.

Ms Baptiste said persons wishing to make cheque donations should ensure that it is certified or it will take 10 days to be cleared. She said persons may also drop off supplies at her office, Jetta’s Multi-Services, on Hearn Lane, or at Terminal Two at Freeport Harbour.

“The devastation is unbelievable - there is tremendous loss of life and property damage. We need all the help and assistance we can get and we are calling on members of the community to please do whatever you can. People are dying in Haiti and time is not on our side, we need your prayers and your support. Ms Baptiste thanked the community groups that have pledged their support to relief efforts on Grand Bahama. Father Remy David is calling on churches on the island to take up a second collection on Sunday for Haiti.

“We have to bind our hearts and hands together and help those who are in need in Haiti,” he said.

“We have a Christian obligation to respond to that need and so whatever means God has given us we should try and help our brothers and sisters.”

“I want to encourage every Christian person and human being to do whatever they can to help the people in Haiti,” said Fr Remy.

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The International Committee of the Red Cross has set up the “Family News Network” for the Haitian earthquake, which enables victims to register themselves online, making their whereabouts and contact details known to anyone who checks the list of registrants.

The online network also allows concerned individuals to register the name and details of any person they may be trying to find as they or someone who knows the individual’s whereabouts may also have access to the site and be able to make contact as a result.

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LOVELY BONES	NEW	1:35	N/A	4:35	7:35	N/A	10:35
PRECIOUS	NEW	1:05	3:30	N/A	6:05	8:25	10:55
DAYBREAKERS	C	1:10	3:40	N/A	6:10	8:30	10:55
UP IN THE AIR	T	1:00	3:30	N/A	6:00	8:25	10:45
LEAP YEAR	T	1:10	3:35	N/A	6:10	8:35	10:45
SHERLOCK HOMES	C	1:00	3:25	N/A	6:00	8:20	10:45
IT'S COMPLICATED	C	1:30	N/A	4:30	7:30	N/A	N/A
BROTHER	C	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	10:55
ALVIN & THE CHIPMUNKS	B	1:20	3:45	N/A	6:20	N/A	N/A
AVATAR	T	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	8:40	N/A

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THE SPY NEXT DOOR	NEW	1:15	3:45	N/A	6:15	8:40	10:40
DAYBREAKERS	NEW	1:10	3:30	N/A	6:10	8:30	10:40
SHERLOCK HOMES	C	1:00	3:35	N/A	6:15	8:35	10:50
ALVIN & THE CHIPMUNKS	B	1:15	3:35	N/A	6:15	8:35	10:35
AVATAR	T	1:00	N/A	4:10	7:15	N/A	10:20

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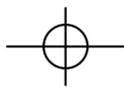
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## EDITORIAL/LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

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Publisher/Editor 1972-

Published Daily Monday to Saturday

Shirley Street, P.O. Box N-3207, Nassau, Bahamas  
Insurance Management Building., P.O. F-485, Freeport, Grand Bahama

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## WEBSITE

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**Obama heeding lessons of Katrina**

WASHINGTON — This is what President Barack Obama wants people to think about the U.S. reaction to the catastrophe in Haiti: It will not be another Hurricane Katrina.

Obama has repeatedly promised a "swift, coordinated and aggressive" response. He is determined to show that the United States, even consumed with its own troubles, can get this right, and that he can, too.

The world is watching because of the expectations that come with being a rich, powerful democracy that is supposed to look out for its neighbours.

And because the stain of Katrina is not gone. "This is one of those moments that calls out for American leadership," said Obama, who can add a humanitarian crisis to his first-year tests in office.

There are huge contrasts between Katrina, the most destructive natural disaster in U.S. history, and the sorrowful scene unfolding in Haiti. One was a hurricane on U.S. soil that killed 1,800 people across the coast of the Gulf of Mexico; the other was an earthquake hundreds of miles away that may have killed 50,000 people.

Yet as the wrenching images come in of people clinging to wreckage, of bodies piling up on the street, the comparisons are inevitable.

The botched federal response to Katrina in 2005 became the standard by which emergency responses are measured, and presidents are held accountable.

"The United States is seen in the world as the first responder to this kind of humanitarian crisis, and it has echoes — inappropriate echoes, to be sure — of Hurricane Katrina," said Paul Light, a professor of public service at New York University. "Can we get there fast enough? There's a risk there for the president."

Obama has responded with urgency, and the White House has tried to make sure that people know it.

The president has dispatched ships, soldiers, Marines and loads of other assets to the reeling Caribbean nation. He has pledged \$100 million for relief efforts now and promised that that number will grow. He has positioned the United States as a coalition-building leader — the United Nations itself has been rocked by the collapse of its headquarters in Haiti. He has pleaded for donations from his old campaign list of supporters, more than 13 million strong.

And he told his team: "I will not put up with any excuses" for an inadequate response, another allusion to past government failures. A senior White House official, national security staff chief Denis McDonough, arrived in Haiti to help make sure U.S. agencies were coordinating as promised.

What the White House is not ready to do is trumpet any results — not yet. Another lesson learned from Katrina.

When Obama spokesman Robert Gibbs was asked whether Obama was pleased with the pace of the U.S. response so far, he said: "He is, but ..."

Gibbs followed by telling reporters that Obama had sternly told his team in the White House Situation Room that they must work day and night to get help fast into Haiti.

The human cost of disasters is the toll that matters. But the political one cannot be ignored.

"Presidents have a very limited time to prove their effectiveness in managing a crisis," said Light, who praised Obama for the way he has spelled out the U.S. response and rallied his own country to help. "Still, Light added: "The clock is ticking."

George W. Bush paid a huge price when America watched, in horror, as New Orleans was drowning and governments at all levels were slow to respond.

Now Obama has tasked Bush, along with fellow former President Bill Clinton, to lead the private fundraising efforts to help Haiti and its people recover. The three of them will meet at the White House on Saturday.

Never mind that Obama blasted Bush's government for "unconscionable ineptitude" after Hurricane Katrina hit.

Time for some common humanity, as Obama put it.

"We will do what it takes to save lives," Obama declared Friday to the people of Haiti in what has become a daily update on the crisis.

The balance for the president is to not be seen as heavy-handed or as the world's problem-solver. He has emphasized that his chief priority is Americans, from getting injured U.S. citizens airlifted out of Haiti to helping Haitian-Americans try to get answers about their families.

Yet Obama says a robust response to another nation in need is also an American imperative.

(This article was written by Ben Feller of the Associated Press).

**A scientist's views on the Wilson City BEC plant**

EDITOR, The Tribune.

A scientist who has done a lot of work throughout the Bahamas had the following to say about the EIA for the Wilson City BEC plant. I thought it was worth sharing with those of us who didn't get to read the EIA.

**Another Concerned Abaco Resident**

Said the scientist:

As a scientist who has long conducted research in The Bahamas, I was recently afforded the opportunity to review the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the Wilson City Bunker C plant. I feel so relieved after doing so. A couple of points I found reassuring:

- A survey was conducted over a 100 acre parcel in the vicinity of the plant. In this 100 acre area surveyed for the EIA (and I quote): "No birds or wild animals were discerned in the site vicinity." What a relief! Not one hog, bird, lizard nor ant! Those shotgun shells on the road must be from hunters shooting at rocks. Nice to know that not ONE single animal was affected by the land clearing.

- Since no land animals were observed, I guess we can safely infer that there are also no aquatic animals where the docking will take place, and not a single fish, conch or crawfish in the adjacent wetlands. There were NO surveys done of these aquatic areas (apart from confirming that mangroves are "present"), but I think it is safe to assume that nothing lives there.

And I had thought the

**LETTERS**

letters@tribunemedia.net

pipeline was running adjacent to the most productive nursery for Nassau grouper, conch and lobster on the island. I am glad I was proved wrong.

- Luckily, any adverse effects will not affect the settlement nearest to the plant, i.e., "Spring City...located more than 8 miles from the site." This is repeatedly emphasized in the EIA — no people live closer than 7-8 miles. That is fortuitous, because my calculations suggest that Cherokee is just over 5 miles away, Casuarina Point, 6 miles, the Winding Bay development and Big Bird farm, 4 miles, and Little Harbour less than 4 miles. And the cays adjacent to the plant must be much, much, further away than they seem. I am glad I had made these errors in my calculations! Surely, the EIA team didn't just see the Spring City road on the way to the site by car, and just assume it was the closest settlement.

- "Poor materials and handling practices at Clifton Pier, Blue Hills, and Marsh Harbour has required the apparent need for extensive ground clean-up..." But the EIA repeatedly assures us that no such problems are "anticipated" at Wilson City. Thank goodness.

I will cease with the sarcasm. In reality, this was the single most inappropriate and poorly written document I have come across in my scientific career. Pages of text non-applicable to the Wilson City site, text obvious cut and pasted from other EIAs, and blatant omissions render the document largely useless. That such an error-laden and irrelevant EIA can underpin a massive project like the BEC power plant is scary for the people of Abaco and The Bahamas. This document reads not like an actual EIA, but more like a JDACS: "Justify the Development at Any Cost Statement". The possible impacts on terrestrial and marine life are barely alluded to at all, because "best management practices" will always be employed. Judging by recent history, this doesn't reassure me.

I view the Wilson City site as not just a poor site for this plant, but perhaps the worst site on the island. But it is one thing to criticize, and another to propose a solution.

There do seem to be alternatives, perhaps the Norman's Castle site.

The potential environmental impacts at the Norman's Castle site pale with that of Wilson City.

At the very least, a real environmental impact assessment should be done at the Wilson City site before moving forward. Embarking on these massive development projects that are justified by irrelevant EIAs should be unacceptable to the people of The Bahamas.

It is a scary practice to accept.

**An open letter to DHL Worldwide Express**

EDITOR, The Tribune.

Please publish this open letter to DHL.

DHL Worldwide Express  
Nassau, Bahamas

January 6, 2010.

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am reviewing your motto as is on your advertising poster which I had plenty of time to copy down as I was patiently waiting while they were searching! "Fastest Delivery...Most Reliable Connections...Global Reach!"

All I could do was smile while I was writing it all down!

My friend in Ft Lauderdale who kindly got my prescription pills for me called the DHL office to pick them up, which they did on December 31st.

I know that there were planes flying from Ft Lauderdale to Nassau over the weekend of January 2/3/4/5 2010!

If you notice that data at the top of this letter it is a Wednesday!

Most business places were opened on Saturday, January 2nd and certainly on January 4th and 5th!

I know it is about a 3/4 of an hour drive to get from the airport into the city area therefore I can't really understand that shipment made on December 31st, still was not available to pick up by 3pm on January 6th at your office at Ernest Street!

I certainly won't recommend that any new shipments made from the states be made via DHL in the future to me!

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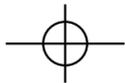
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LOCAL NEWS

WHY YOU VEX?



"I vex at the number of street lights that are out of order. Along my regular routes of Eastern Road and Prince Charles Drive there are some areas with four and five lights out in a row. I'm sure it's the same on other streets too. Maybe whoever is responsible for replacing blown bulbs should take a night-time tour of the island and put a sticker on the pole so they can come back and put in a new bulb. Just a suggestion".

- Vex at dark streets

"I vex at that man on Eastern Road who lets his dirty, filthy dogs roam the streets at night. They mess on my front lawn and rip open my trash bags."

- DOG TIRED

"I vex that some people are immune to the devastation in Haiti, whose hearts must be so black with prejudice and hatred, that all they are concerned about is how the aftermath of the earthquake will affect us instead of focusing on how we can rally around our hurting brothers and sisters."

"We in the Bahamas have been lucky to escape natural disasters and economic instability, but if we ever experience such travesties I'm sure everyone here would expect nothing less than immediate help from the international community. Show that you are a 'Christian' by your words and actions, not just by dressing up on Sunday to sit in a church."

- Praying for Haiti

"I vex at my stink neighbour who actually had the audacity to tell me I disturbing her by slamming my front door too loud and that I come in my house all hours of the night. I have hardly been home in months because I have been staying over at my girlfriend's house, so I want to know how me coming home three times a week at 8pm to get a change of clothes or leaving at 7am to head to work can disturb her."

"She mussy paying my bills - people like her need to stay out of people business before they get what they looking for. I don't be interested in her strange activities so she should stay out of my life."

- Mind ya business

"I vex that I can't get through to 100 JAMZ to win that money they giving away. I think I had the answer \$9,000 ago but the phone always busy."

- B-wall

"I happy to see all of the concern coming from the Bahamas and other countries to help the poor people of Haiti, who have been ignored and trampled on for too long. I only hope they get the assistance they need to recover from the earthquake and can maybe turn their broken country around."

- Proud of the Bahamas

"I happy because there's a new traffic light out east at the Fox Hill/Joe Farrington crossroads. All new signage, painted street markings and even a proper 'Bus Stop' area, are there."

"Hopefully jitney drivers will use it and not block up the road as they usually do right there on the corner, especially since a concrete median is being installed and you can't drive around any sitting bus. This is the quickest I've ever seen a traffic light go up and I hope it helps the situation there."

- Eastern Driver

• Are you vex? Send your complaints to <whyyouvox@tribunemedia.net> or fax them to 328-2398.

BIFF seeks permanent venue

By MEGAN REYNOLDS Tribune Staff Reporter mreynolds@tribunemedia.net

FILMMAKERS from around the world have praised the Bahamas International Film Festival as one of the world's best but said the emerging festival is held back by the lack of a central cinema.

Around 50 festival guests, their friends and relatives, were accommodated at hotels from Paradise Island to Cable Beach during the week-long festival while events took place at Atlantis, the Balmoral Club, Old Fort Bay and Compass Point.

An hourly bus service from the Atlantis hotel took festival guests to the Galleria cinema in JFK Drive where the festival's 87 films were screened, but it is clear from filmmakers' feedback the festival would benefit from a more centralised structure.

BIFF founder and executive director Leslie Vanderpool is determined to secure a permanent venue for BIFF as it continues to grow and Sir Sean Connery called on the government to provide the non-profit organisation with a building that could house a library of film and film editing equipment when presenting Johnny Depp with the BIFF Career Achievement Tribute Award at the Balmoral Club on December 13.

Miss Vanderpool suggested the neglected National Centre for Performing Arts in Shirley Street could be used for the purpose, but Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture Charles Maynard said it was unlikely the centre would be designated exclusively for BIFF as he said it is used by various groups throughout the year.

However Miss Vanderpool said she will endeavour to secure a venue as the festival continues to grow and improve transportation in the meantime.

New York actor Johnny Ferro, who starred in Bahamian filmmaker Kareem Mortimer's

film *Children of God* said: "In comparison to other festivals I've attended, BIFF was much larger and of a higher profile."

"The attendance at the festival probably impressed me the most and I don't just mean the celebrity attendance."

"Leslie has a great deal of pressure to deal with getting the festival together, and I'm sure the festival would benefit significantly from more money and volunteers, and as Sir Sean mentioned more than once, a centrally located permanent headquarters."

An American filmmaker added: "BIFF is one of the better festivals I have been too, mainly because its in the Bahamas and they do recruit good films and have good people to connect with."

"My biggest critique is that they should have more screenings at the resort or have the festival somewhere else. The travel to and from the theatre was a huge pain, especially with the lack of co-ordination from the festival, no one knew where to go or how to get there."

"They could either convert the huge conference rooms at Atlantis into screening rooms and have a shuttle for locals to attend, or have the festival in downtown Nassau so that more locals can attend and the filmmakers can get there more quickly or stay there."

But despite the criticisms the overall impression of the festival is overwhelmingly positive.

Katrina Browne, producer and director of BIFF award winning documentary *Traces of the Trade* said she appreciated the opportunity to share her film with Bahamian people.

She said: "I really appreci-

ated the chance to come to the festival, and not only show the film, but meet Bahamian representatives from government, the media, the religious community, and also specifically from the Pompei Museum of Slavery."

"This opened doors for potential future screenings of the film in the Bahamas, and since our main goal is to inspire people to talk about the history and legacy of slavery, not just in the US but in the Caribbean, I'm very excited by this potential. And, of course, I was so happy and honoured to win the documentary award!"

*The Nature of Existence* producer and first time visitor to the Bahamas Paul Tarantino added: "I have to say I thought both the festival and the country were nothing short of wonderful, I had such a great time. BIFF is a festival put together with a lot of love."

"Film festivals are great for many reasons; being able to show your work to people all over the world, meet your fel-



Leslie Vanderpool

low filmmakers, and perhaps most of all to inspire you to make more films because I want to make another film for many reasons, not the least of which is in the hopes Leslie will invite me back to BIFF!"

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• Interface with other team members to manage customer requirements;
• Provides software support to customers post implementation, answering complex questions on function and usage of product via the telephone and internet;
• Work systematically through hardware or software problems and help customers understand the features and benefits of new features that best meet their needs;
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- Completion of a post-secondary degree;
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January 17th - 22nd 7:30 p.m. nightly East Street Tabernacle THE ANNUAL NATIONAL EVANGELISTIC CRUSADE OF THE CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY 2010 Under The Theme: "I'm Coming Out" Hear Anointed Speakers: Branson Gibson, Rachel Sands, Maurice Simms, Jarenda Rahming, Edward Virgil Jr., Eileen Johnson Be Blessed By Guest Soloists: National Crusade Choir, Centennial Mass Choir, Tabernacle Concert Choir, Church of God National Youth Choir. Crusade Co-Ordinators Are: Ministers Terrance Forbes, Darrel Ferguson & Shawnette Roye Bishop Dr. Elgarnet B. Rahming, CMG, DD, JP National Overseer For further information call 322-3097

LOCAL NEWS

**CORONER'S INQUEST: SHOOTING DEATH OF BRENTON SMITH**

# Inquest jurors see armed robbery footage

By NATARIO MCKENZIE  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
nmckenzie@tribunemedia.net



BRENTON SMITH

JURORS in the Coroner's Inquest into the shooting death of Brenton Smith yesterday watched surveillance footage of the armed robbery that occurred at the City Market food store the night the teen was killed.

Surveillance footage from the night of July 9, 2009, showed two dark skinned men walk through the main entrance of City Market, Village Road at around 7.53pm along with a female customer who appeared unaware of what was happening.

One of the robbers – who wore a red, hooded jacket, blue pants with white stripes and black tennis shoes – grabbed a plastic bag from a bag rack in the store and proceeded to the cashier.

The video showed that while he appeared to demand cash, the second robber – who wore a long sleeved white shirt, khaki pants and what

clutched the plastic bag and darted out the store's front door followed closely by his armed accomplice.

Detective Sergeant Dale Strachan, attached to the Central Detective Unit's technical unit, told the court that based on the footage, it appeared that the gunman may have discharged his weapon, however he admitted he could not say this definitively as there was no sound.

## Testified

Detective Sergeant Kervin Jones, scenes of crime investigator, testified that around 3.30pm on July 14, 2009, he went to the Fox Hill Police Station where he spoke to woman Superintendent Ismela Davis.

Sergeant Jones said Superintendent Davis gave him a black Vector 9mm pistol serial number TQ124962 as well as a black-handled chrome Smith and Wesson 9mm pistol serial number VJJ7447, and 14 live rounds of 9mm ammunition. Sergeant Jones said he

later packaged and labelled the guns and ammunition, and the following day, took them to the police forensic laboratory for analysis.

Attorney Romona Farquharson, who represents Corporal Kelsie Munroe – the officer who is alleged to have shot Brenton – questioned Sergeant Jones as to why he had listed a third gun and serial number on a report dated July 14. Sergeant Jones claimed it was a typographical error, as he only turned over the two guns and ammunition he received from Superintendent Davis.

Ms Farquharson asked whether the revolver he claimed was listed on the report by mistake actually existed. Sergeant Jones said he did not know.

He told the court he only collected one clip with 14 rounds in it, although Superintendent Davis on Thursday recalled that she had given him two clips – one containing 14 rounds and another containing 15 rounds.

Charles Bain, a firearms examiner, also took the stand. He testified that on

July 16, he received one 9mm Luger fired cartridge case; a Vector 9mm Luger caliber auto-loading pistol, serial number TQ124692; a detachable clip; a Smith and Wesson 9mm Luger auto-loading pistol, serial number VJJ74447; a detachable clip for the gun; and 14 9mm Luger caliber unfired cartridges. Bain said he also received a fired bullet – adding that the first gun which was completely black, was capable of firing the bullet.

Inspector Oswald Nixon, director of the police forensic lab, testified that on July 16, he received several items related to the matter, including a bullet and tubes containing Brenton Smith's blood, bile, vitreous humour and stomach contents.

According to Inspector Bain, toxicology reports showed that Smith did not have any drugs or alcohol in his system at the time of his death.

The inquest has been adjourned to February 4, 5, 15, and 16. Jurors are expected to be taken to the area where Smith was killed.

## Contract for reconstruction of dock addresses the plight of Abaco residents

**PRESENTATION:** Mr Grant presents a copy of a contract to repair the seawall and freight dock at Sunshine Park to Jonathan Higgs of Abaco Tug and Transport. Pictured from left: Jeremy Sweeting, Chief Councillor for Hope Town; Nicole Campbell, Undersecretary in the Ministry of Public Works and Transport; Mr Grant; Mr Higgs; Cephas Cooper, Senior Administrator for the Central Abaco District and Lana Russell, Deputy Chief Councillor.



**PUBLIC WORKS** and Transport Minister Neko Grant (first from left) inspecting damage to the dock in Sunshine Park, Hope Town, Abaco on Wednesday, January 13. Also pictured are Nicole Campbell, Undersecretary in the Ministry of Public Works and Transport and John Schaeffer, area engineer.

THE signing of a contract for the reconstruction of the seawall and freight dock at Sunshine Park in Hope Town, Abaco will help alleviate the hardship suffered by the residents of this settlement said Chief Councillor Jeremy Sweeting.

The dock was damaged during Hurricane Floyd in September 1999 and this has severely impacted the small community's ability to import and export goods.

Mr Sweeting was addressing a small gathering of locals who braved the chilly temperatures to witness the signing of a contract on Wednesday, January 13.

In attendance was Public Works and Transport Minister Neko Grant; Nicole Campbell, Undersecretary in the Ministry of Public Works and Transport; Cephas Cooper, Senior Administrator for the Central Abaco District; John Schaeffer, area engineer; Local Government representatives, and students and teachers of Hope Town Primary School.

### Thanked

Mr Sweeting thanked Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham and Mr Grant for addressing the community's concerns. Cephas Cooper described it as a "special" day for Hope Town.

"All of us have waited for this day with great anticipation for many years and we certainly are looking for the successful completion," he said.

Mr Grant noted that on a visit to Hope Town in May of last year, he noted that the timber seawall at Sunshine Park had "failed" in several locations, but the dock was still being used to off-load freight.

A plan for sheet piling and other works required to repair the dock was prepared following the visit.

The project was tendered and bids were opened at the government's Tenders Board at the Ministry of Finance on December 15, 2009.

Mr Grant said three contractors submitted bids and Jonathan Higgs of Abaco Tug and Transport was the successful bidder.

The company received the \$206,394 contract.

**PHOTOS:**  
Letisha Henderson/BIS

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**Elder Brentford Isaacs**  
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Bible Class: 9:45 a.m. • Breaking of Bread Service: 10:45 a.m.  
• Community Outreach: 11:30 a.m. • Evening Service: 7:00 p.m.  
• Midweek Service 7:30 p.m. (Wednesdays)  
• Sisters' Prayer Meeting: 10:00 a.m. (2nd Thursday of each month)

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Sunday School: 9:45am  
Prayer time: 6:30pm  
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7:00 a.m. Sis. Tezel Anderson/ Sis. Rosemary Williams  
11:00 a.m. Rev. Carla Culmer/Bro. Andre Bethel (B)  
7:00 p.m. Bro. Franklyn Bethel/ Sis. Marilyn Tinker  
Theme: "But As For Me And My Household, We Will Serve the Lord"

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\* Worship Service ..... 11:00 a.m.  
\* Spanish Service ..... 11:00 a.m.  
\* FAIDS Youth Church(Grades 7-12)  
First & Third Sunday ..... 11:30 a.m.  
\* POWER CREW Church(Ages 10-11 yrs.)  
Second & Fourth Sunday ..... 11:30 a.m.  
\* Evening Service ..... 6:30 p.m.  
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## 75th Anniversary

St. Anselm's Parish will be having three nights of reflections to mark the beginning of its 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a Parish

The reflections will be held at St. Anselm's church on Bernard Road from Monday January 18th to the Wednesday January 20<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7pm.

These reflection will be conducted by Fr. Philip Chircop a Jesuit priest born on the island of Malta, presently working in the Canadian Province.

Under the theme "Go build my Church: Becoming a living stone in the body of Christ", the reflections are designed to spiritually renew participants. We are people of God, the body of Christ, a communion of broken people blessed and called out to serve and heal the world we live in.

LOCAL NEWS

Inquiry

FROM page one

East Street, Bamboo Boulevard improvements are in progress

BAHAMIANS can look forward to a four-way junction that offers a smoother flow of traffic when the roadworks underway at the junction of Bamboo Boulevard and East Street are completed.

Charlene Collie-Harris, project engineer in the Project Execution Unit (PEU) of the Ministry of Public Works and Transport explained that the junction will be realigned with Zion Boulevard to cause a more "direct" movement of traffic.

Other improvements include drainage works, sidewalks, curbing, new road construction, new pavements and proper street lighting.

The work is a continuation of the New Providence Road Improvement Project, a major component of the New Providence Transport Programme being funded by the Inter-American Development Bank and the government.

Contract

The government signed a \$120 million contract with Jose Cartellone Construcciones Civiles of Argentina in December of 2008 to complete the project.

The objectives of the project are to improve the road network by construction of new road corridors, reconstruct existing road corridors and improve major intersections.

Motorists can expect sections of the junction at East Street and Bamboo Boulevard to be temporarily closed. Those travelling south of East Street are advised to use the one lane traffic system and those travelling northbound should divert through Valencia Drive and exit through



TRAFFIC at East Street and Bamboo Boulevard has been diverted as milling of the existing pavement is carried out to the junction.

Zion Boulevard on to East Street.

"We're asking the public to exercise patience and co-operation and to plan their journeys ahead of time. Traffic would be backed up at times, but the Police Station at South Beach is assisting us to ensure that traffic moves smoothly," Mrs Collie-Harris said.

She said flyers have been distributed to residents of the area to inform them of the roadworks.

"We have gone door to door in the local community advising the public on what will take place. We have also partnered with the local police to assist us in ensuring that the traffic management scheme is adhered to and we are progressing towards information meetings and radio announcements to keep the public informed," she added.



PICTURED are motorists travelling on East Street and Bamboo Boulevard near the Southeastern Police Force station as temporary roadworks take place there.

Department of Social Services sends out plea

Families needed to provide foster homes for older children

THE Department of Social Services is in "desperate" need of suitable families to provide foster homes for older children.

Carolyn M Hepburn, the department's deputy director, said the government agency has long struggled with finding suitable, temporary homes for "hard to place" adolescent and teenage children.

The department is urging compassionate persons with a stable home to consider opening up their homes temporarily — if only for a holiday or day visit — to a child in need.

Outreach

"What we've been trying to do is an outreach to persons who are interested in caring for children, mainly those considered hard to place, boys from 8 to 17. With girls, the younger ones, that's not a problem but when they get to teen or pre-teen, persons are less interested in them," she told The Tribune yesterday.

"Even if the person would be willing to take them home for the weekend at least they would have a touch of home. (We) want people who are caring, people who are serious about what they are doing and compassionate. Who can strengthen the family outlook for the child rather than weaken it," she added.

Prospective applicants will have to furnish the department with reference letters and would be subject to an

assessment by a social services officer before a child is released into their custody.

The department also provides parenting classes and in some cases a foster care allowance to assist families. Ms Hepburn added that foster children are usually sent

to temporary homes in pairs, in order to limit the attachment a foster child may have to a surrogate parent.

Once a child is placed, a child care assistant would be assigned to routinely check on the child at home and school.

WINDWARD ISLAND PROPERTIES LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Shareholders of the above-named Company duly convened and held on the Thirteenth day of January, 2010 the following resolutions were passed:

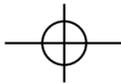
RESOLVED that WINDWARD ISLAND PROPERTIES be wound up voluntarily.

RESOLVED that Dayan Bourne be appointed the Liquidator for the purpose of such winding up.

Dated the Thirteenth day of January, 2010.

H&J CORPORATE SERVICES LTD. Registered Office For the above-named Company

Financial market data table including BIXX LISTED & TRADED SECURITIES AS OF THURSDAY, 14 JANUARY 2010. It lists various stock indices, company shares, and mutual funds with columns for bid/ask prices, volume, and other financial metrics.



# sports

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 2010

INSIDE • Father Marcian Peters Awards



## Grand Bahama athlete dies during practice

By DENISE MAYCOCK  
Tribune Freeport Reporter  
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

THE Grand Bahama Sporting Community suffered a big loss on Thursday when one of the bright young basketball players – Shaquille Hinds – died during a practice session.

According to his coach Norris Bain, the Tabernacle Falcons was watching a girls' game at the YMCA Gym, but because it took so long, they were told that they would not be able to practice because they were running into the practice time for the Ross University.

Bain, however, said he asked to allow his team to just workout until the university players had arrived.

"Ten minutes hadn't passed when we started to run. In fact, we didn't get through the running when Shaquille came to the baseline and bend over and I told him not to do that because he wouldn't be able to breathe," Bain pointed out.

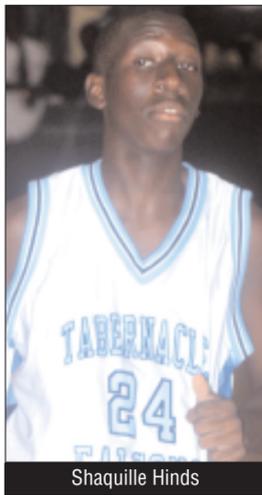
"One of the guys then said 'help Shaquille' and when the guy reached over to help him, he just fell and hit his head and that was it."

Although he received medical assistance from two students from a visiting college out of the United States, he was pronounced dead on arrival at the Rand Memorial Hospital.

Hinds, a 16-year-old 10th grader, was the son of the late former national team player Anthony 'Dunkin' Hinds, who died three years and the brother of current national team member Alonzo 'CJ' Hinds.

The younger Hinds came off the bench for coach Bain, but played a significant role in their success.

"He was very promising and he had that same kind of shooting release as his father," Bain said. "He was very promising. Everywhere I took him, people were interested in him and talked about his potential and what he could become. He was really good."



Shaquille Hinds

Bain said Hinds' death really hit home yesterday when several counsellors came in and talked to the student body and the players on the team.

"We had a lot of talking with the kids today," he said. "It was a very touching moment for us today."

ZNS Sportscaster in Grand Bahama, Ricardo Lightbourn said Hines certainly had all the tools to be another exciting player to watch, just like his father and brother.

"He's a talented kid. He has control of the floor and he played just like his father, Dunkin Hinds did," Lightbourn said. "He played with ease and was very smooth."

"He had a potent jumper like his brother, CJ, and he had some good moves to the basket. Off the court, the kids in school enjoyed his company. He was open to people, outgoing and very friendly. The sky was the limit for this kid in terms of his talent. He had all the tools."

Bahamas Basketball Federation, in offering his condolences to the family, said the basketball community has certainly lost yet another young talented player.

"Master Hines life certainly will not be in vain, but will motivate others to embrace

SEE page 10



Harbour Island Jr Boys

## Outstanding players of the Father Marcian Peters Tournament awarded

By BRENT STUBBS  
Senior Sports Reporter  
bstubbs@tribunemedia.net

FOR the past 25 years, the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture has hosted the prestigious Father Marcian Peters Invitational Basketball Tournament.

And every year, the ministry has tried to improve on the way they operate the week-long event for primary boys and girls, junior boys and girls, intermediate boys and girls, and senior girls.

New Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture Charles Maynard said he was pleased with the way the tournament has developed over the years.

"We cater to young ladies and the very young men, whereas the other tournaments just cater to the senior boys," he said. "So this allows those players who don't get the exposure to get it."

Last year's tournament, held in December, was by far the biggest and Maynard said it was a special one because of the 25th year and he congratulated all of the schools who participated.

Yesterday at the Kendal Isaacs Gymnasium, Maynard and his sports staff presented awards to all of the deserving

athletes in the respective divisions.

One of those schools that made an impact this year was University School, who was formed just this past year.

Head coach Henry Giddens said he was really surprised about their performance, considering that he felt the boys had a lot more talent.

"We try to balance education and sports to make them a better student," said Giddens, who came over from St. Augustine's College to help the school's in their initial tournament appearance.

"The boys had a lot more talent and a lot more people, but the girls did very well. I'm now preparing the boys for the Hugh Campbell, so maybe they will get to show the girls that they can do it too."

Leading the attack for University School was Shanae Armbrister, who was not only named the Most Valuable Player in the senior girls division, but she also carted off the most assists and most points scored awards as well as being named to the All-tournament team.

"I was a little surprised the way we played, but I knew I had to put my best foot forward," said the shy 15-year-old 6-foot-1 former student of



Kyle Turnquest

CC Sweeting. "For a team that just been together, we did very well. I'm very proud of them."

St. John's College, who had to play second fiddle to University School, made the final in the senior girls division for the first time and coach Herbie Brown said he was quite pleased with their performance.

"We had the championship in our hand," he said. "But we just lost the game in the last few minutes when we

missed a key lay-up that I thought it should have been a foul."

"Needless to say, we lost the game, but it is what it is and thank God that we made it to the final. We just hope to move on and become a better team as a result of it."

Repeating as champions in the primary girls division was no small feat for coach Neken Demeritte and his Temple Christian Suns.

SEE page 10

More photos on pg 10

## Ferguson: 'High school teams are not complying with the rules'

By BRENT STUBBS  
Senior Sports Reporter  
bstubbs@tribunemedia.net

THE prestigious Hugh Campbell Basketball Classic is less than a month away, but committee chairman Ricardo Ferguson said they are still concerned that the high school teams are not complying with the rules.

Ferguson said the committee had set yesterday as the deadline for teams to register to participate in the tournament that will run from February 15-22 at the Kendal Isaacs Gymnasium.

"We're planning, but right now there is a stalling point with the entries because the committee is planning, but so

far we have only received entries from three schools," he pointed out.

"Everybody keeps saying that they are coming, they are coming, but we need the information to properly plan and be ready for next month."

As a result of this tactic, Ferguson said they will have no other choice, but to take the first 32 teams that register and go with that.

"If somebody gets left out, that's their business because they are making it difficult for us as a committee," he said. "They are trying to hold us hostage."

"I had a coach say to me that 'we need them. The tournament is nothing without them.' If that's the mentality

that they have, we will just have to do what we have to do."

Ferguson said they are projecting a draw of 32 teams, but if they don't have that amount, they are still prepared to go ahead with whatever number decide to sign up.

The tournament is considered to be the national senior boys high school tournament in the country. But Ferguson said there's no reason why they should have to run behind coaches to get their rosters.

"I think it's unfair and these are people who are leading young men," he said. "I don't think they are doing a very good job at this time."

So far, Ferguson said they have only had received

entries from Westminster, St. John's, RM Bailey and Catholic High from Grand Bahama.

"What could you do with four teams, if this is the so called national high school tournament," Ferguson said. "It's ridiculous. But we are going ahead. We are not stopping our plan."

"It's unfortunate that we are at this point. People have been asking about the pools, but we can't even do the pools without the teams. So we are trying to avoid the late entries to the pools."

The only difference in the tournament this year, according to Ferguson, is that they will hold the opening ceremonies at the host AF Adderley Junior High School.

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SPORTS

MORE SCENES FROM THE FATHER MARCIAN PETERS AWARDS CEREMONY

Letisha Henderson/Photos



Westminister Intermediate boys



Temple Christian primary girls



Shanae Armbrister



University school senior girls



Daniel Bullard



Edward Davis

GB athlete dies during practice

FROM page nine

the days we are given and live our lives as the master had told us, in preparation for the meeting with Him," Hepburn stressed. "Young and old we are to be prepared for the inevitable. Life is a gift. We are encouraged to embrace it and live in the expectation of even a better life ahead."

Hepburn said the federation grieve with his family. "The loss of a son is hard for anyone and so much harder for a father who loves his sons and shows them the love and attention that this father gave his son," Hepburn stated.

"Also to his mom and siblings we say: 'God will give you strength in your hour of need.' To his friends, Coach and teammates, our prayers are with you, continue to do well."

Fr Marcian Peters Tournament awards

FROM page nine

"It was very competitive in both the primary boys and girls divisions," Demeritte said. "I'm just glad that we came back and was able to defend our title. The girls really worked hard to defend their title."

While Demeritte was named the coach of the junior girls division, the MVP went to Sade Smith.

And coach Donnie Culmer said while he was pleased that his St. Bede's Crushers also won the primary boys title, he was a little disappointed that they were overlooked for the primary girls third place.

After lodging a protest with the organizers, the decision was made to take the awards back from Yellow Elder Primary and award them to St. Bede's.

"All in all, it was good," Culmer said. "I'm just glad that we got our awards."

Culmer was named the primary boys' coach of the tournament and the MVP went to Kyle 'Flash' Turnquest, who was also named to the All-Tournament team.

Patricia 'Patty' Johnson was named the coach of the tournament in the junior girls as her HO Nash LKionbs dominated in repeating as champions.

And Kalicia Laing was the top performer for the Lions and indeed the tournament taking the most assists, most rebounds, most steals, sportsmanship, most points and MVP along with All-Tournament honor.

Harbour Island was the only team out of New Providence to come to town to receive their award. They won the junior boys title. Edward Davis was the MVP and he also took the male sportsman award and was named to the All-Tournament team.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Lions' Cherilus: Grandma, brother OK in Haiti

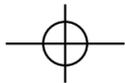
FOOTBALL ALLEN PARK, Mich. Associated Press

DETROIT Lions offensive tackle Gosder Cherilus (CHAIR-eh-luss) says his grandmother and brother are safe after the Haiti earthquake, but other extended family members were killed.

He said Friday he felt helpless when his mother called him from their U.S. home to tell him of the quake, and he rushed from the gym to be with her. Cherilus says he tried to call his relatives but was unable to get through.

He says all they could do was worry until they heard from them that his brother and grandmother escaped injury.

Cherilus says he's starting a foundation to aid quake victims. The Lions say they're donating \$10,000 for Haiti relief in the names of three team members of Haitian background — Cherilus, Cliff Avril and Louis Delmas.



LOCAL NEWS

# Detainee plan sparks debate

FROM page one

probably will be six months with a requirement to report to Immigration (officials) in three months time."

The length of the temporary status will be determined by Government as the situation in Haiti evolves, he said.

"This for me is priority and this must be done expeditiously," said Immigration Director Jack Thompson, who could not immediately say when the Haitian detainees would be released.

Initial reaction from the Haitian community on the Government's plan was positive.

"I think that's very good that's helping because right now if you look at the situation in Haiti, we do not receive commercial flights, the priorities right now is the relief flights. We do not have commercial flights now and I think that the decision of the government here is we welcome that because that is going to help us," said Haitian Ambassador to the Bahamas Louis Harold Joseph.

"I think that would be a commendable gesture given the fact that the whole world is watching — if the Bahamas does not do the right thing it will not look good," said Haitian-Bahamian attorney Elizer Regnier.

Jetta Baptiste, head of the Haitian Bahamian Society in Grand Bahama, said: "We want to say thanks you to (Government) for their wisdom in releasing all the Haitian detainees. Their families and God appreciate it."

For some Bahamians, concerned with the strain of illegal immigrants on public health and education systems, Government's plan is seen as problematic.

One Defence Force officer questioned how well Government will be able to monitor the immigrants and repatriate them once the situation in Haiti improves, because "the Bahamas done slack so they don't have no way to track nobody."

"You don't just give people status because they have crisis, you try to hold them until things get better. I sorry I even vote FNM because what he (Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham) talking is foolishness. They contradicting what they trying to do at Immigration. "When they get sorted, the rest who inside Haiti will try to get here because the Bahamas giving status," said the angry public servant. The debate raged on popular social networking website Facebook and on The Tribune's website.

As for what will happen to the released detainees, Immigration officials are confident that most of them will be taken care of by friends, family or church leaders in the Haitian community.

Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham has said he does not expect an influx of immigrants from Haiti in the aftermath of the quake, explaining that most Haitians who migrate to the Bahamas come from northern Haiti, and not Port-au-Prince, near the quake's epicentre. He told the media that a different course of action, which he did not specify, would be applied to new Haitian immigrants.

# Donations pour in to help victims

FROM page one

and compassion shown by Bahamians wanting to assist and had their youngest donor ever yesterday.

Zara Robinson, three, a St Andrews preschool student, was so moved by the plight of those suffering in the aftermath of the earthquake she took it upon herself to go to her closet and pick out clothes to donate, including her favourite pair of pink and white polka-dot shoes.

But in order to send the goods a 40ft container and packing boxes are needed to pack the load to be sent on a ship ready to take the delivery to Haiti as soon as space becomes available at the Haitian port.

The charity is also appealing for donations of canned food and bottled water, as well as manual can openers, plastic cups, paper plates and paper towels to help feed

the hundreds of thousands left homeless in Haiti and any refugees who may arrive in Inagua.

Hygiene products are also needed, particularly for women and children, as well as First Aid and medical supplies, sanitisers, bandages and plasters.

Bedding is also crucial, and donations of clothing which should be clean and in good condition.

All goods are being stored in the two-storey Red Cross warehouse where space is extremely limited as the warehouse elevator is currently out of action.

Anyone in the community who is skilled in elevator repair is asked to step forward to assess the problem and assist if possible as a way of aiding the relief effort.

Volunteers are needed to sort through, organise and pack the donated goods and a meeting will be held on Monday at 6pm for anyone interested in donating their time

to the cause. And First Aid training for volunteers and anyone interested in learning will be held at the Red Cross at 9am today.

Donations can be taken to the Red Cross headquarters in JFK Drive or Destinations travel agencies in Shirley Street, Carmichael Road, Cable Beach, Lyford Cay and the Mall at Marathon, as well as Freeport, North Eleuthera, Long Island and Exuma. Drop boxes for donations are also located at the College of the Bahamas, Quality Auto in Shirley Street, Le Petit Gourme cafe in the Shirley Street Plaza.

Financial donations can be paid into the Red Cross Haiti Relief Fund at the Royal Bank of Canada account number 05165 2893865.

A Red Cross hotline opened today to answer any questions from the public in relation to the Haitian disaster relief. Contact the Red Cross on 380-2222.

# Psychiatric test ordered in unnatural intercourse case

FROM page one

more weeks before he learns what his sentence will be.

Sweeting was back before Senior Justice Anita Allen yesterday for a sentencing hearing.

According to probation officer Matrena Carey, he has expressed no remorse over the incident and still denies he ever committed the offence.

Sweeting's attorney Mario Gray told the court his client had spent a considerable amount of time in and out of jail and asked the court to note that he had been in custody since his arrest.

Lead Prosecutor Sandra Dee Gardener noted, however, that Sweeting

had been on bail during his trial.

Gray said that Sweeting had only been granted bail in December 2008. Mr Gray said that he has been in Sandilands and last December attempted suicide.

Mr Gray said Sweeting was released from Sandilands on January 8. He said that in light of this, a psychiatric report may be best.

The prosecution did not object to the idea, and Senior Justice Allen ordered a psychiatric report on Sweeting. The matter was adjourned to March 16.

In his unsworn statement during his trial Sweeting had claimed that it was the complainant who had made sexual advances to him.

# Shooting victim in serious condition

FROM page one

from the bullets that penetrated the front door.

The injured security officer was taken to Rand Memorial Hospital, where is detained in serious condition.

ASP Mackey said the gunman was described as being 6'1"-6'2" tall, between 190-200lbs. He was wearing a light blue long sleeve hooded jacket and a long faded blue pants.

Anyone with information that can assist police with their investigations is asked to call 350-3107/8, 352-9774/5 or 911.

## Man charged with murder

FROM page one

maine Deal.

Mr Deal, 22, of North Mastic Point, was found shot to death in a green Nissan Sentra by the roadside in Mastic Point.

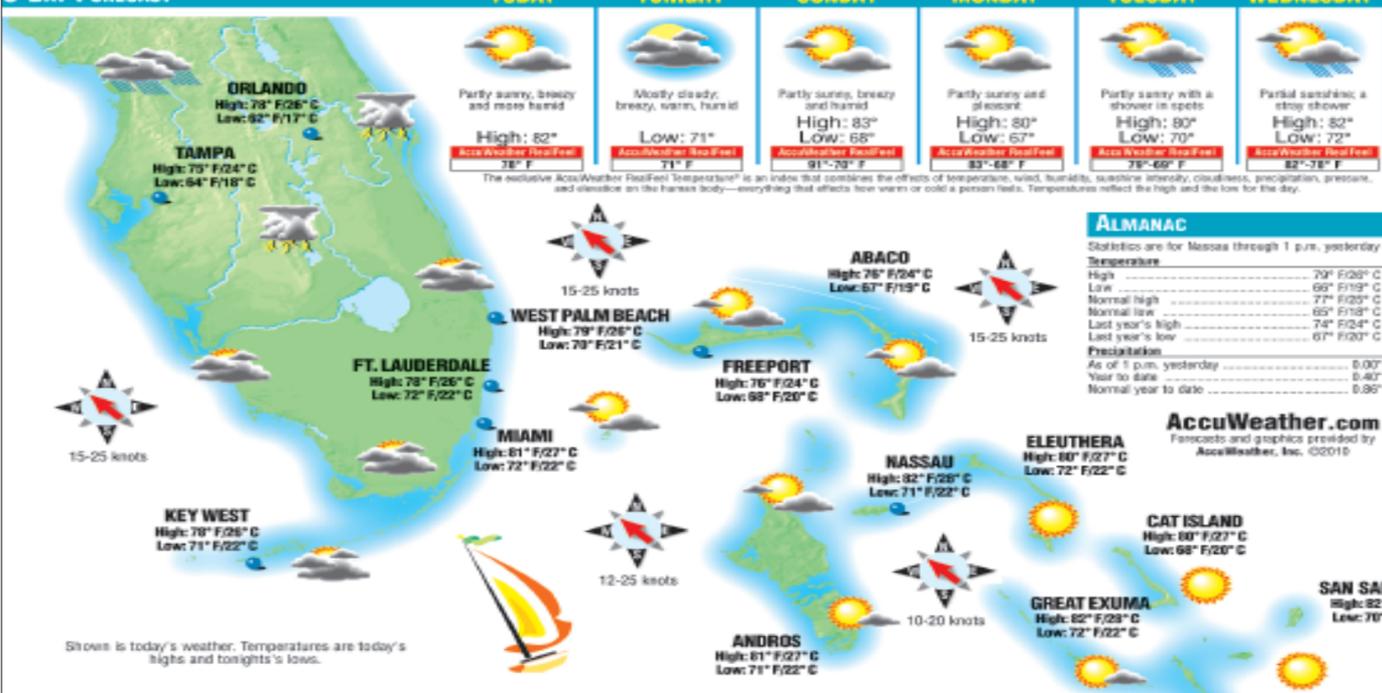
Mackey was not required to enter a plea to the charge and was remanded to Her Majesty's Prison. The case was adjourned to January 26 in Court 10, Nassau Street, for a fixture hearing.

# THE WEATHER REPORT



INSURANCE MANAGEMENT (BAHAMAS) LIMITED  
INSURANCE BROKERS & AGENTS

### 5-DAY FORECAST



### UV INDEX TODAY



### TIDES FOR NASSAU

Time	High	HL (ft.)	Low	HL (ft.)
Today	8:20 a.m.	2.7	2:01 p.m.	-0.3
	8:37 p.m.	2.2	2:49 p.m.	-0.1
Sunday	8:55 a.m.	2.7	2:39 a.m.	-0.1
	9:15 p.m.	2.3	3:20 p.m.	-0.1
Monday	9:30 a.m.	2.6	3:18 a.m.	0.0
	9:52 p.m.	2.3	3:54 p.m.	-0.1
Tuesday	10:04 a.m.	2.5	3:18 a.m.	0.0
	10:31 p.m.	2.3	4:27 p.m.	-0.1
Wednesday	0:40 a.m.	2.4	4:38 a.m.	0.1
	11:19 a.m.	2.2	5:22 p.m.	0.3
	11:57 p.m.	2.3	5:39 p.m.	0.0
Thursday	12:03 p.m.	2.1	6:12 a.m.	0.4
			6:22 p.m.	0.0

### ALMANAC

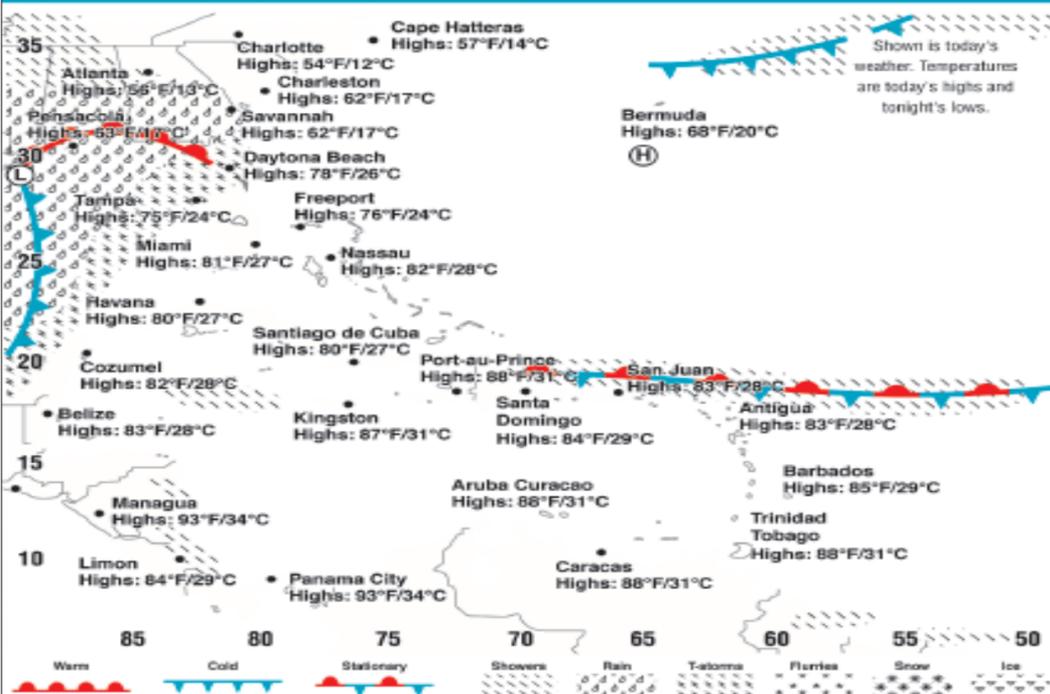
Statistics are for Nassau through 1 p.m. yesterday	Value
Temperature	70° F/26° C
High	79° F/26° C
Low	66° F/19° C
Normal high	77° F/25° C
Normal low	65° F/19° C
Last year's high	74° F/24° C
Last year's low	67° F/20° C
Precipitation	0.07"
As of 1 p.m. yesterday	0.07"
Year to date	0.40"
Normal year to date	0.96"

AccuWeather.com  
Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2010

### SUN AND MOON

Event	Time	Phase
Sunrise	6:57 a.m.	
Sunset	5:43 p.m.	
Next Moonrise	7:44 a.m.	
Next Moonset	7:55 p.m.	

### INSURANCE MANAGEMENT TRACKING MAP



### MARINE FORECAST

Location	Today	WINDS	WAVES	VISIBILITY	WATER TEMPS.
ABACO	Today: SE at 15-25 Knots	4-8 Feet	10 Miles	73° F	
ANDROS	Today: SE at 12-25 Knots	3-6 Feet	10 Miles	73° F	
CAT ISLAND	Today: SSE at 10-20 Knots	3-6 Feet	10 Miles	73° F	
CROOKED ISLAND	Today: E at 12-25 Knots	4-7 Feet	10 Miles	78° F	
ELEUTHERA	Today: SSE at 12-25 Knots	3-6 Feet	10 Miles	73° F	
FREEPORT	Today: SE at 15-25 Knots	2-4 Feet	10 Miles	75° F	
GREAT EXUMA	Today: SE at 10-20 Knots	1-3 Feet	10 Miles	75° F	
GREAT INAGUA	Today: E at 12-25 Knots	3-6 Feet	10 Miles	73° F	
LONG ISLAND	Today: E at 12-25 Knots	2-4 Feet	10 Miles	77° F	
MAYAGUANA	Today: E at 12-25 Knots	3-6 Feet	10 Miles	73° F	
NASSAU	Today: SSE at 15-25 Knots	2-4 Feet	10 Miles	75° F	
SAN SALVADOR	Today: SE at 15-25 Knots	3-6 Feet	10 Miles	77° F	
RAGGED ISLAND	Today: SE at 10-20 Knots	2-4 Feet	10 Miles	73° F	

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