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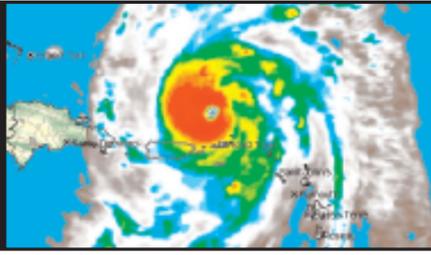
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FEATURES



Committed to a deception
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Travolta retrial will go ahead

Police identify the year's 65th murder victim

By MEGAN REYNOLDS
 Tribune Staff Reporter
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THE body riddled with bullets and dumped in Lady Slipper Avenue has been identified by police and classified as the country's 65th murder this year.

Police are appealing for help from the public to help solve the murder of Nassau Village resident Harrison Stubbs, 41, who was shot several times and found dead in the street on Sunday night.

Assistant Commissioner of Police Glenn Miller said **SEE page nine**

AG dismisses reports that extortion case may be dropped

By ALISON LOWE
 Tribune Staff Reporter
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THE Attorney General last night dismissed suggestions his Office was considering abandoning the pending retrial of former PLP senator Pleasant Bridgewater and ex-ambulance driver Tarino Lightbourne on charges relating to the alleged extortion attempt on US actor John Travolta.

Bahama Journal that the Attorney General's Office may be set to drop the case against Lightbourne and Bridgewater, by entering a *nolle prosequi* – a declaration that the prosecution is to be discontinued — Attorney General John Delaney said this is not a consideration as far as he is concerned.

"I don't know where they would have gotten that from," said Mr Delaney of the **SEE page nine**

Claim that man shot dead was to become prosecution witness

By NATARIO MCKENZIE
 Tribune Staff Reporter
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POLICE last night refused to comment on suggestions that a Fox Hill man who was shot dead and his three-month-old daughter seriously wounded, was about to become a prosecution witness.

This comes as *The Tribune* confirmed yesterday that Raymond Bastian, 35, who was killed during a drive-by shooting on **SEE page nine**

EMOTIONS RUN HIGH AFTER TRAFFIC FATALITY

TIM CLARKE/TRIBUNE STAFF



FAMILY'S GRIEF: The country recorded its 26th traffic fatality of the year yesterday as Orlando Jason Daxon, 23, a resident of St Vincent Avenue in Elizabeth Estates, died when his car hit a tree, just east of the Prince Charles Shopping Centre. Police, pictured above, restrain the victim's brother at the scene.

• SEE PAGE TWO

Massive hurricane approaches, tropical storm watch issued

By ALISON LOWE
 Tribune Staff Reporter
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GUSTY winds and rain are projected to affect the south and north eastern islands of The Bahamas by tonight and into tomorrow after Hurricane Earl grew into a category four storm.

Meanwhile, the north and north eastern islands and east-facing beaches in particular have been singled out as likely to be impacted by large waves and potentially dangerous rip currents.

These developments came about as the Government issued a tropical storm watch for the southeastern Bahamas yesterday afternoon, meaning that tropical storm conditions could affect that area within 48 hours.

Accuweather meteorologist Brian Edwards said the very large size of the storm, with tropical storm force winds extending out almost 175 miles from the centre, would mean that **SEE page nine**



THE IMAGE at the top shows the projected path of Hurricane Earl. The image above shows the scale and intensity of the storm – with the eye in red – as it approaches Puerto Rico.

Govt suspends consideration process for oil exploration

By TANEKA THOMPSON
 Tribune Staff Reporter
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GOVERNMENT has suspended the consideration process for all oil exploration and drilling applications until the country has stringent environmental protocols in place to mitigate against a catastrophic oil well leak.

According to Environment Minister Earl Deveaux, the new stipulation comes in response to British Petroleum's (BP) devastating oil leak in the Gulf of Mexico – which threatened fragile marine ecosystems and fishing industries. **SEE page nine**



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LOCAL NEWS

Family grief-stricken after young man dies in car crash



TRAGIC: Orlando Jason Daxon

The 26th traffic fatality of year

By AVA TURNQUEST
Tribune Staff Reporter
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A NASSAU family was stricken with grief yesterday morning when their young relative died of injuries sustained in a serious traffic accident.

Orlando Jason Daxon, 23, a resident of St Vincent Avenue in Elizabeth Estates, was travelling west on Prince Charles Drive when he lost control of his 1999 green Honda Accord.

His car ran into a tree on the southern side of the street, just east of the Prince Charles Shopping Centre.

Mr Daxon, a hotel worker, was the youngest of five boys. His death is the country's 26th traffic fatality for the year.

Family members and friends gathered at the scene of the accident, some becoming physically overwhelmed by his sudden death. Mr Daxon was said to have been on his way to pick up his young daughter for pre-school.

This week marks the return of students to school from summer vacation, which is expected to dramatically increase traffic congestion in the capital. Traffic police are asking the public to make an effort to leave home earlier to allow themselves enough time to arrive at their destination punctually and safely.

Superintendent Carolyn Bowe, officer-in-charge of the Traffic Division, confirmed that an additional 17 motorcyclists hit the streets yesterday morning, bringing the total of traffic officers on patrol to 34.

She explained that the increase was due in part to public demand for more traffic officers on the streets in the capital.



CRASH SCENE: The green Honda Accord ran into a tree on the southern side of the street, just east of the Prince Charles Shopping Centre.



TRAGEDY: The body of the young man is removed from the scene.

PHOTOS: Tim Clarke/Tribune staff

*Happy 36th
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to our wonderful parents*

*Algenon S.P.B Allen
&
Justice Anita Allen*

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Phylicia and Amil*

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CB Appointments

Mr. William B. Sands, Jr., President & CEO
of Commonwealth Bank Limited, is pleased to announce the following appointment:

MR. WALLACE H. TAYLOR
Manager, Abaco Branch

Mr. William B. Sands, Jr., President & CEO of Commonwealth Bank is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Wallace H. Taylor as Manager, Abaco Branch effective August 24, 2010.

Mr. Taylor has over twenty - three (23) years of banking experience in the areas of Operations and Credit, including consumer and retail lending, sales and deposit services. Mr. Taylor has been a part of Commonwealth Bank for the past eight (8) years, having served most recently in the capacity of Manager at Commonwealth Bank, Oakes Field Branch.

Mr. Taylor has completed various management courses including the Ivey Leadership Program in London, Ontario.

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PLP youth arm: Statement on gay teachers not authorised

PROGRESSIVE Young Liberals chairman Aarone Sargent confirmed last night that a statement purporting to be on behalf of the PYL regarding homosexual teachers in schools was not authorised.

Mr Sargent said the statement, which attacked Bishop Simeon Hall's call for gay and bisexual teachers to be banned from public schools, was sent by a subordinate and was not consistent with the position of the PYL, the youth arm of the Progressive Liberal Party (PLP).

Mr Sargent said his organisation understands Bishop Hall's "moral commitment" to the country and the context in which his statement was issued.

"We stand by his statement in terms of banning predators from the nation's schools, whether they be heterosexual or homosexuals. It is the country's obligation to protect its youth, and the PYL stands behind this 100 per cent."

"We always lend our support to any area that supports or empowers the youth - especially when it comes to education," Mr Sargent said.

Bishop Hall issued a statement last week calling on the Ministry of Education to ban all "homosexuals, lesbians, and heterosexual predators" from the nation's classrooms ahead of the opening of the new school year.

In the statement, Bishop Hall said the min-

istry should "assure" the public that these "deviants" will not be allowed into the nation's classrooms.

"It is incredulous that some incidences of sexual abuse could exist in some schools without someone making an outcry. It is my humble opinion that the Ministry of Education could be liable if it allows known sexual deviants to remain in the nation's classrooms. You don't put 'the fox to tend the chickens'," Bishop Hall said.

"Parents themselves must do more and recognise that theirs is the responsibility to protect their children. Some parents knowingly prostitute the innocence of their children for a couple of dollars," he added.

Human rights activist and local artist Erin Greene said the issue of someone's sexuality has absolutely nothing to do with child safety.

Ms Greene said she shares Bishop Hall's concern about sexual predators in schools, but to blame homosexuals for the "gross and horrendous" mismanagement of the problem by the Ministry of Education is "ludicrous."

"What we need to do is re-evaluate the system by which we evaluate our teachers. It has nothing to do with gay or straight. I, too, am concerned about the safety of our children. The problem doesn't lie with gay or straight, it lies with the lack of accountability in the Ministry of Education," she said.

The Bahamas takes part in session involving US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Iraq

THE United States Embassy hosted a live conference call with Michael Corbin, US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Iraq, yesterday. The Bahamas, Mexico and Brazil participated in the session.

Mr Corbin spoke from the State Department in Washington, DC, about the end of combat operations for US soldiers in Iraq, which officially took place yesterday in compliance with the mandate of President Barack Obama, who announced when he took office in January 2009 that the US would end its combat mission in Iraq on August 31 of this year.

Less than 50,000 US troops will remain in Iraq until the end of 2011 to perform limited counterterrorism operations as directed by the Iraqi government; conduct training of Iraqi security forces; and

provide security to protect US interests, according to Mr Corbin.

Asked whether the United States had learned anything from its military presence in Iraq to help bridge cultural divides at home, Mr Corbin said: "I think there is a greater understanding of the complexity of the Middle East from our long presence in Iraq."

Bridges

"What I would point to as a civilian diplomat at the State Department is how we built bridges with the Pentagon and worked on military civilian co-operation to better handle these types of worldwide crises as we go around the world and look at future trouble spots."

"I think we have estab-

lished good co-operation with the military; our provincial reconstruction teams are an example of that. But I also think there is a greater understanding of complex societies and how we need to all work together to address the different aspects of those societies as we go forward. As to the domestic repercussions, I think it will take many years to see how this Iraqi experience will reflect in the US."

The US war in Iraq began in 2003 with the invasion aimed at toppling former dictator Saddam Hussein.

More than 4,400 US soldiers have lost their lives and almost 32,000 US personnel have been wounded, according to some sources, which place the cost of the war at \$750 billion.

Studies place Iraqi casualties at between 100,000 and 600,000.

LOCAL NEWS

'Brave' Davis raps Ministry as school fails to open on time



CRYING SHAME:
Philip 'Brave' Davis

PLP DEPUTY Leader Philip 'Brave' Davis cried shame on the Ministry of Education for failing to open the Old Bight High School in Cat Island on time yesterday.

According to Mr Davis, a shortage of teachers and incomplete school repairs were to blame for the delay.

"In spite of the government and Minister of Education's ongoing public relations exercise, the children of south Cat Island were forced to stay home and miss valuable school time today.

"I am advised that the school is in disrepair with school repairs having started only one week ago.

"This is totally unacceptable and a slap in the face of the children of Cat Island.

"The government was aware for months of the need to get the school in order for this new academic year," he said.

Repairs

By all accounts, the PLP's deputy leader said, the repairs will remain ongoing for "some time".

"All children of the Bahamas deserve to go to school in a safe environment.

"In fact, Old Bight and south Cat Island is overdue for a new high school.

"Additionally, I am advised that there is a serious shortage of teachers at the Old Bight High School. Up to this past weekend, the school needed an additional eight teachers to meet basic education requirements and to effectively provide the standard and quality of education that Cat Islanders deserve. Such a critical shortage is deplorable. The children of Cat Island, Rum Cay and San Salvador deserve better," he charged.

Mr Davis said he has been informed by the residents of Rum Cay that there is also a lack of teachers at the Rum Cay All Age School.

Principal

"There was only a principal in place today.

"The principal expected teachers this morning but no one arrived.

"The school requires at least two assistant teachers to be fully staffed.

"On the first day of school there was none. This cannot be right.

"I implore the government as a matter of urgency to address these teacher shortages.

"This is no time for public relations exercises but rather ensuring that our children return to school and that there are sufficient teachers in place.

"The children of Cat Island, Rum Cay and San Salvador have been victims of government neglect for far too long and cannot afford to be left behind. After all, they are Bahamians too," he said.

Police continue search for answers about Cuban's escape

Officers who guarded cell of escaped prisoner face probe

By MEGAN REYNOLDS
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HARBOUR Island officers who guarded the cell of prisoner Avelino Avila Tomas will be investigated as police continue to search for answers about the Cuban Spanish Wells resident's escape last weekend.

Spanish Wells residents say it would have been impossible for Avila to break out of the jail cell alone as no man could fit through the single barred window. They say the only way out would be the front door.

Assistant Commissioner of Police Glenn Miller confirmed yesterday that officers who were guarding the North Eleuthera jail cell will be questioned as part of the ongoing investigation.

Chief Inspector Roston Moss



FIRE DAMAGE: Cuban Avelino Avila Tomas was taken into custody after this barge was torched causing thousands of dollars worth of damage.

took charge of operations in Harbour Island in February to combat crime in one of the world's most sought-after tourist destinations.

Mr Miller said: "The matter is being investigated and of course an investigation of the police officers is a part of that investigation."

A nationwide manhunt was launched after Avila disappeared from the Harbour Island station some time after 11pm on Sunday, September 22, and he was still on the run as *The Tribune* went to press last night.

Officers arrested Avila in connection with a suspected

arson attack on a Complete Marine Services barge which had been chartered by Avila's former employer Island Block and Concrete to ship construction materials and equipment to a worksite in Exuma.

Fire erupted on the boat, docked in Spanish Wells harbour, at around 3am on Saturday, September 21.

It is estimated to have caused \$200,000 to \$300,000 worth of damage to the equipment loaded onboard.

Police confronted Avila at his Spanish Wells home that afternoon and confiscated two licensed shotguns belonging to the Cuban as they took him into custody for questioning.

Avila has lived on the two-mile-long island with his wife Melisa, formerly Pinder, for almost a decade, and is well known in the community of

around 1,500 residents. Mrs Pinder was taken into custody by around 10 police officers who confronted her at The Islander Shop in Spanish Wells where she works on Tuesday last week.

She was questioned at the Governor's Harbour police station on mainland Eleuthera for around 24 hours before she was released without charge.

Police officers from New Providence were sent out to Eleuthera to assist with the investigation last week. These investigations are still ongoing, Mr Miller said.

Any information which may assist the police should be reported as a matter of urgency by calling the emergency line on 919, the Central Detective Unit (CDU) on 502-9991 or Crime Stoppers anonymously on 328-TIPS (8477).

Airline passengers warned about illegal charter flights 'danger'

Lives are at risk, say aviation authorities

By NOELLE NICOLLS
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AIRLINE passengers are in "cahoots" with operators of illegal charter flight services according to industry players, who say the practice occurs "blatantly" in the face of authorities.

Aviation authorities are urging passengers to stop participating in the "dangerous" flights, warning that their lives are at risk.

Some politicians are have even been guilty of complicity in the past, according to one pilot, who said candidates have taken advantage of the cheaper services during election time.

"It is a serious issue. You have some hackers down there that don't have a pilot's licence, but have been flying for how long. The level of corruption stirs it up and keeps it afloat. The persons who get away with it have some kind of connections to be able to get away with it for so long. It happens blatantly every day in the face of the authorities," said the pilot.

"Hacking" is a problem as old as the aviation industry in the Bahamas, said another pilot. It refers to the practice of operating charter services without the proper licenses or permits. He said several established Bahamian pilots started out hacking.

"Not all aircraft or pilots are Aircraft Operator Certificate (AOC) holders. The aircraft may be certified as air-worthy, but that doesn't mean the person is approved to do a charter flight. Everybody can fly their private plane, but not everybody can fly for commercial purposes. There is a process you have to go through for certification," said Hubert Adderley, director of Flight Standards.

"There is nothing I can do to stop a person flying his cousin to Andros. If he wants to fly those people and charge them \$100, once he collects money for that flight he is charging someone for a service, and if he is unauthorised that is a violation of the regulations," said Mr Adderley.

Byron Ferguson, president of the Bahamian Pilots Alliance, said the problem is real, but "it is a government issue the authorities need to regulate".

Aviation safety inspector Delvin Major said the problems with oversight and enforcement are not the result of corruption among officials.

"Our hands are tied because a lot of the times the passengers are in cahoots," he said.

Inspector Major said pilots brief passengers "well in advance" about what to say if an inspector comes to ask questions, and they arrange for payment at the destination point.

"We at Flight Standards have been doing ramp checks, heightened surveillance. The problem we run into is that

"Our hands are tied because a lot of the times the passengers are in cahoots."

Aviation safety inspector Delvin Major

when we go to approach the pilots and the passengers they will say, 'This is my boy, my family, we are catching a ride'. The passengers are in collusion with the pilots, so it makes our job difficult," he said.

Flights by hackers are cheaper because they do not pay commercial liability insurance, do not spend money on approved maintenance programmes for their aircraft, do not spend money on pilot training programmes, and are not held to the same standards, said Inspector Major.

Commercial insurance for five-seater aircraft could cost \$15,000 per year; maintenance could cost about \$80,000 per year; and pilot training could cost \$15,000 per year, according to one established pilot. "There are a lot of fees involved," he said, including terminal fees, passenger facility charges and security fees.

"It is very unsafe and it is not worth it to put your fami-

ly or yourself at risk to save \$20 or \$30," said Inspector Major.

He said passengers usually come clean only after an accident happens.

Two recent accidents involved aircraft that were not licensed to operate charters – one of them the twin engine aircraft that crashed on Bimini in May, in which two people died.

"That was not an authorised charter operation. I am not saying the pilot was operating a charter flight, but he was not one of the regulated authorised charter operators," said Inspector Major.

The offence of hacking does not carry criminal penalties, which is something the authorities would like to change.

"If we can prove that a passenger paid for the flight, there are a lot of civil penalties we can levy against the pilots.

"We would suggest to the government to make it a criminal offence. Haul these guys in to court, seize their planes," said Inspector Major.

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EDITORIAL/LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Being Bound to Swear to The Dogmas of No Master

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There are no fees to enter govt schools

ALTHOUGH Education Minister Desmond Bannister has announced on many occasions – the latest being on July 29 – that no fees are charged for entry into a public school, another complaint came to The Tribune yesterday. The circumstances surrounding that complaint leads us to believe that politics has now entered the arena.

Political activist Rodney Moncur called our office to “tip” us off that he had two students who had been denied registration because their parents could not pay the registration fee. He was going to take them to the school to be registered. He suggested that The Tribune might want to send a photographer to record the problems they were going to face.

The photographer was assigned. When the photographer arrived he saw Mr Moncur with a mother, two children and their aunt. The aunt took the older child to be registered at the senior high school. She encountered no registration problems. The mother dealt with the younger child at the junior school. She told staff that her child had previously been refused registration. She then had a private meeting with a school representative after which her child was registered without a problem. So what was the problem and where was the story?

It turns out that earlier in the summer the mother had gone to the school to register her 11 year old. She was told about the “registration” fee – a one time fee covering six years that included insurance. The \$130 fee would give a child round-the-clock insurance coverage, whether in or out of school, for as long as they were students. It was a good deal that no parent could afford to miss. But there were parents who could not afford such an offer. The teachers were sending those parents to Social Services for assistance. However, fee or no fee – insurance or no insurance – no child would be denied entrance to any government school.

What this mother understood of that conversation at that time is not known. However, she is supposed to have told the school’s representative that she did not have all of the money at that time, but would return. She did not register her child. Nor did she return.

Apparently, she was expecting a certain sum of money which did not come through. Instead of going back to the school to explain her financial position, she went to Mr Moncur. What Mr Moncur

understood of her story is not known, but there are those who believe he saw a political opportunity and was “meddling.”

Anyway, Mr Moncur – mother, aunt, and two children – went to the school yesterday, prepared for rejection and an argument. They got neither.

On leaving the school Mr Moncur told a Tribune reporter that the mother had vowed that if anyone at the school were “mean” to her child as a result of the rumpus caused yesterday morning “she’d come and close the school down.”

Sometimes we believe the main problem with today’s children are their parents.

Anyway, when our photographer returned he told “the desk” that the story was not what The Tribune had been led to believe. He did not think there was an issue and, although he went around taking photographs, he did not know why he was there. He certainly was not impressed by the mother’s behaviour.

On an earlier occasion when Mr Moncur had a previous issue with students not being registered and had gone to the government school to complain, he was told there would not be a problem. We understand that he even met with Minister Bannister when the fees policy was fully explained to him. However, it is understood that a week after that conversation no attempt had yet been made by either Mr Moncur or the parents to register those children. We just assume that they were eventually registered.

Fully armed with the information about school fees from no less a person than Minister Bannister himself, we would have expected Mr Moncur to help parents who had doubts or were confused over the matter.

Certainly knowing the procedure we would not have expected him to go to the school to create a “news” scene over something that was no longer newsworthy. Teachers have enough problems trying to accommodate young people into overcrowded schools. They certainly should not have to be burdened with non-issues with political overtones.

We believe there would be fewer confrontational and angry young people in this country if parents and politicians did not keep the confrontational kettle on a constant boil.

If Bahamians want a more harmonious country there has to be more leadership by example.

Why wouldn't investors be interested in Baha Mar?

EDITOR, The Tribune.

Neil Hartnell’s article in Your Business Section, Thursday, August 26, if Scotia and the Loan Syndicate were to pull the plug and foreclose I say investors will come – if Baha Mar project has any economic and investment substance, you can bet suitors will come with their cheque books or why should we waste all this time on Baha Mar?

We’ve heard some crazy things on Baha Mar recently, but to suggest other investors would not be interested beats

LETTERS

letters@tribunemedia.net

all. Why wouldn’t investors be interested?

Editor: Remember the old maxim in Real Estate? Location - Location and Location.

Actually for The Bahamas long term from the construction angle and the employee operational side, that just might be the best choice of all the alternatives, so that we

can get a really solid and sustainable project.

Prime Minister Ingraham always questioned the reliability of some of the parties connected with this project – has he changed his mind?

Yes, we have the Chinese offering a loan which has probably a page and a half of conditions – what’s to stop a future purchaser coming in with cash and do a deal?

ABRAHAM MOSS,
Nassau,
August 26, 2010.

There is a long history of inept government involvement in farming

EDITOR, The Tribune.

Recently the energetic Minister for Agriculture announced a \$42 million Five Year Plan to stimulate food production, roughly 8 million per year.

Considering that the annual estimates for the years 2002 – 2009 averaged about 3 million per year the increase to \$8 million is a huge leap.

In earlier years Mr. Pierre Dupuch as the Hon. Minister of Agriculture took interest in banana production.

The strategy then was to support banana growing with high tariffs on imported bananas as protectionist policy for the farmers to encourage more production.

No one doubts that Mr. Dupuch made a concerted effort but in spite of the high tariffs on the imports the local growers were unable to supply the market with edible fruit at prices equal to or below that of the imports.

The above is an example of government funding with good intentions but when judged on the results turned out to be a failure.

Mr. Cartwright’s good intentions fit Dr. Milton Friedman’s description of private and public enterprise:

“If you start a programme that is a failure and you are in the private market, the only way you can keep it going is by digging into your own pocket. That is your bottom line.

“However, if you are in the government, you have another recourse.

“With perfectly good intentions and good will nobody likes to say ‘I was wrong’ when

you can say, ‘oh, the only reason it is a failure is because we haven’t done enough.’”

It sure looks like government has decided more money for agriculture is the solution.

The Ministry’s objective is to “stimulate” food production with more money to bring the country “nearer to food security”.

In spite of no evidence of a food shortage or the likelihood of one in the future, money is taken today from taxpayer’s pockets where there is a real shortage of that commodity.

Trying to fulfil a utopian vision of self-sustaining food production has unseen consequences.

For example, the money to expand the government programme is taken from Mr. Taxpayer who had saved up for a new suit. The other loser is the little tailor not hired to make the suit.

There is a long history of inept government involvement in farming.

The grand schemes hatched in parliament have a way of fizzling out and there is nothing in the history of farming in the Bahamas to suggest that this one will be any different.

President Reagan described wasteful spending this way:

“Sometimes I think that government fits that old-fashioned definition of a baby: An alimentary canal with an appetite at one end and no sense of responsibility at the other.”

JOAN THOMPSON
President,
The Nassau Institute.
August 28 2010.

The term ‘Catholic’ and what it means

EDITOR, The Tribune.

I found the letter by “Catholic” to be very informative. However, his signing of the letter with “Catholic” would be permissible if he had left out that an aspect of his ministry was his ability to forgive sins. I would have no problem with anything in his letter if he had signed his name “Roman Catholic”, because that denomination gives their priests the authority to forgive sins. His use of the term “Catholic” means

Christian and if you call yourself Christian, it means that only Jesus Christ has the authority and ability to forgive sins. Being of the Protestant persuasion it is very difficult for me to read this “misrepresentation” in a local paper and not respond. The 1992 Vatican articles are very clear on what the Eucharist represents and I have no problem with what another religion thinks, stands for or practices, but history records that the Protestants, Reformers and anyone who disagreed

paid the ultimate price for their views.

This letter will probably result in all of the rhetoric about why religion is so divisive, but there are some things that will never connect in this life or the next, and the revealed word of God setting the guidelines for life and liberty versus an earthly organisation reinterpreting and setting the guidelines for Scripture is one of them.

EDWARD HUTCHESON
Nassau,
August 24, 2010.

(Catholic as defined by Cassell’s dictionary means: 1. universal, general, comprehensive. 2. liberal, large-hearted, tolerant. 3. (Catholic) of or relating to the Church of Rome, Roman Catholic. 4. (Catholic) of or relating to the whole Christian Church. 5. (Catholic) in the Middle Ages, of or relating to the Western or Latin Church. 6. (Catholic) of or relating to the Anglican Church as claiming continuity from the old, undivided Christian Church. 7. Catholic, not heretical, etc. — Ed).

Quite a few Protestant clergy have young who could call them 'Father'

EDITOR, The Tribune.

Re: Priestly celibacy – a biblical foundation – The Tribune, August 20, 2010

THE huge numbers mentioned in the letter may be difficult to match. Nevertheless, there are quite a few Protestant clergy who also have a lot of young who could rightfully call them “Father.”

KEN W KNOWLES, MD
Nassau,
August 21, 2010.



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LOCAL NEWS

Grand Bahama cruise ferry traffic up 36 per cent

CRUISE ferry traffic to Grand Bahama is up 36 per cent in the first seven months of 2010 compared to the same period of 2009, and a dramatic upswing in stopover visitors from the ferries has brought greater revenue to the island, according to the latest statistics.

For the year so far, the stopover visitors from the cruise ferries have generated well over \$5 million in revenue for Grand Bahama resorts.

Much of the increase in cruise ferry traffic can be attributed to the decision by Bahamas Celebration to end its Fort Lauderdale to Nassau itinerary in March in favour of calls to Freeport from West Palm Beach, tourism officials said.

In addition, Discovery Cruise Lines out of Fort Lauderdale changed their product offering and ramped up their marketing activity,

Dramatic upswing in stopover visitors brings revenue increase

resulting in significant growth for them.

So far, Discovery Cruise Lines and Bahamas Celebration passengers have accounted for 69,123 room nights on Grand Bahama this year.

David Johnson, deputy director general of the Ministry of Tourism and Aviation, pointed out that the increase was realised throughout the cruise ferry industry in Grand Bahama.

Growth

"The numbers show that Discovery Cruise Lines over the same period registered a substantial growth even when we take away the April windfall because they hardly operated in April of 2009 due to severe mechanical difficulties," Mr Johnson said.

"For May/June of this year,

they attracted 39 per cent more traffic."

Substantial numbers of cruise passengers are staying overnight on Grand Bahama, contributing handsomely to the spending on the island, according to Ministry of Tourism and Aviation tallies.

In a single sailing on a particular day, the Bahamas Celebration registered over 700 stopover visitors out of 1,200 passengers, Mr Johnson said.

In many ways, this is incremental revenue for the island's principal resorts, he said.

Terrance Roberts, director for Business Development in the Ministry of Tourism, said large and small business operators in Grand Bahama have been noticing increases in their revenue due to the upswing in cruise ferry traffic. Taxi drivers, water sports operators and various vendors

are among the Bahamians who have been tapping into the increased business, he said.

This direct spending is in addition to the \$20 per passenger departure tax paid to the government.

Michael Weber, general manager of the Radisson and Reef Village at Our Lucaya, said the increased numbers of cruise ferry passengers have made all the difference in business this year.

"They have made an impact this year versus last year without question," he said. "We have increased on both sides - Discovery Cruise Lines and Bahamas Celebration. It's been a double bang for us."

Mr Weber said Our Lucaya has been working with both cruise ferry operations.

"As a good partner, they have been involved with joint

promotions that have helped to boost revenue.

"The healthy rise in business is obvious with just a quick walk through the Our Lucaya property," Mr Weber said. He said the bustling activity has put resort employees on a more steady economic footing than in the previous year. Many resort staff were working only one or two days per week last year while this year they are enjoying four and five-day work weeks.

Vendors

Mr Weber said vendors and other business operators on Grand Bahama should be thankful for the improved financial position.

"If they look back and com-

pare, they should be very grateful and appreciate what we have," he said. "This place is hopping."

Nako Brice, a taxi driver and tour operator, has also taken notice of the increased business from the cruise port. Now that more visitors are coming in, Mr Brice said the island must work to develop more activities and attractions to occupy them.

In addition to the increase in traffic from Discovery Cruise Lines and the Celebration, Mr Brice has seen a jump in the number of passengers arriving aboard Carnival Cruise Lines as well.

Between January and July, Carnival moved from 163,299 passenger arrivals to 263,071 - an increase of 61 per cent.

MINISTRY ENCOURAGES INCREASE IN MUTTON PRODUCTION

THE Ministry of Agriculture said it wants to "substantially increase" the production of Bahamian mutton.

With this in mind, a series of workshops have been launched to identify and address the needs and concerns of mutton producers.

"This exercise will lead to an appreciable and sustainable increase in mutton production over the next several years," said Agriculture Minister Larry Cartwright.

A decline has been noted in Bahamian mutton production over the last few years, he said - despite "a constantly growing" demand for it.

"The share of the market that has not been supplied by Bahamian producers has naturally been supplied by imported meat, which, in 2009, amounted to some \$5 million," he said.

Mr Cartwright was speaking at a workshop on Small Ruminant Production at the Food and Safety Technology Lab on August 26.

The Inter-American Institute for Co-operation in Agriculture identified the consultants who visited the Bahamas for the occasion.

Mr Cartwright underscored the "serious problem to livestock" posed by stray dogs.

Parliament recently passed the Animal Protection and Control Act, which, among other things, establishes animal control units to be manned by wardens with pow-



WORKSHOP SPEECH: Minister of Agriculture and Marine Resources Larry Cartwright, speaking at the New Providence Workshop on Small Ruminant Production. Also pictured are IICA Bahamas representative Dr Marikis Alvarez (right) and permanent secretary Cresswell Sturupp.

ers to restrain and impound animals that might be preying on sheep and goats, Mr Cartwright said.

"Much work has to be done in improving livestock production in general and ensuring in particular that there is a substantial increase in the production of local goat and sheep over the next five years," he said.

The new workshops will review issues facing livestock producers and propose programmes to reverse the negative trend in Bahamian mutton production.

They also seek to have created a viable industry capable of providing a meaningful level of income and an acceptable standard of living for producers, the minister said.

"At the same time, valuable foreign exchange would be

saved and job opportunities created not only in production but also in marketing," said Mr Cartwright.

"At the end of the workshops participants will have obtained the kind of knowledge that should result in higher levels of income for farmers and improved quality of mutton for consumers."

This initiative dovetails with the ministry's embryo transplant programme, started in 2008.

"The success of the embryo transplant project in introducing improved characteristics into the local genetic pool will depend to a large extent on the general improved husbandry practices that farmers will have to adopt," he said. "These are the practices these workshops are intended to impart."

Atlantis to convert ballroom into a basketball court

US men's college teams are set for competition

By ALISON LOWE
Tribune Staff Reporter
alowe@tribunemedia.net



ATLANTIS is spending more than half a million dollars converting a ballroom into a basketball court as it moves to build its reputation as a major sports tourism player in the global hotel industry.

The first game to take place at the hotel's court has already been scheduled for December 18 and will see Virginia Tech, Mississippi State and two other men's college basketball teams pitted against each other in the so-called "Battle at Atlantis."

The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA)-regulation court, which is being set up in what previously housed one of the hotel's ballrooms, will seat up to 4,500 people.

The hotel's executives and the Ministry of Tourism project huge potential in the sports tourism market to act as draw for tourists to the Bahamas and a boon for hotel occupancy rates, while creating another memorable experience for visitors who

may come for the more traditional sun, sand and sea.

The move comes as Atlantis continues to make a name for itself as a venue for other kinds of special events like the high-profile pop concerts that it has been putting on its calendar over the last two years as a way to draw guests in lean economic times.

Meanwhile, the potential for the basketball games to be televised further provides the chance - like that offered by Bahamas and Atlantis' hosting of the Miss Universe pageant in 2009 - for the resort's facilities to be displayed "in millions of households," notes Atlantis CEO George Markantonis.

The hotel chief told the USA Today newspaper that the hotel has also been approached by an NBA basketball team who would like

to bring games to the resort's court.

According to the newspaper, Atlantis is now lobbying the NCAA on behalf of The Bahamas for permission to host official NCAA games next year.

Minister of Tourism Vincent Vanderpool Wallace said of that effort: "This is so significant."

"We think it's going to move us more broadly to get more sports teams to come here."

Atlantis plans to sell weekend packages starting at \$149 a night for the "Battle at Atlantis". The hotel room will come with two tickets to both games and require a two-night minimum stay at the resort. Additional tickets will be sold for between \$20 to \$35 each, according to USA Today.

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LOCAL NEWS

Two Bahamians elected to top posts within US-based Progressive National Baptist Convention

Hopes high of Bahamas hosting major Baptist conferences



BIS Photo: Derek Smith

PROMOTING RELIGIOUS TOURISM: (left to right) Linville Johnson of the Ministry of Tourism and Aviation, religious campaign manager Ishmael Lightbourne, Bishop Simeon Hall, Minister Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace and Rev Timothy Stewart.

FOLLOWING the election of two Bahamians to top posts within the US-based Progressive National Baptist Convention (PNBC), it is hoped that the Bahamas will host major Baptist conferences in the near future, bringing thousands of visitors to the country.

Rev Timothy Stewart, pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, was elected second vice-president of the PNBC – the highest post ever attained within the convention by a Bahamian.

At the same time, Bishop Simeon Hall was elected vice-president of the PNBC's international

region. Members of the local Baptist community said they see the new posts as an "inside track" for the Bahamas to be awarded at least one of the major gatherings of the PNBC, a convention of African-American Baptists emphasising civil rights and social justice with millions of members worldwide.

With respect to the promotion of religious tourism, Rev Stewart, even before his election, had been instrumental in causing the PNBC to convene mid-winter board meetings in Nassau in 1991 and 2004, and in Freeport in 2006.

On each of these occasions, 500 to 1,000 pastors and leaders of PNBC travelled to the Bahamas to plan the convention's agenda and the annual convention which is held each year in August, according to church officials.

Rev Stewart said he is already in discussions with the leadership team to host

the mid-winter board meeting in January 2012 in Nassau, and possibly the annual convention in August 2014 as well, when 3,000 to 5,000 members are expected to attend.

"This achievement is not for me but for the entire international constituency," Rev Stewart said.

Improve

He promised to work to promote religious tourism to the Bahamas and to improve conditions for Bahamians and all of the PNBC members around the world.

Minister of Tourism and Aviation Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace congratulated Rev Stewart and Bishop Hall on their achievements.

"This is the story of two Bahamians who decided that they have the power and capacity to compete on an international level and to be received in the way that

they have makes us all very proud to be Bahamians.

"I tell people many times you will see me in tears on one special occasion – when I see Bahamians achieve. There is nothing that makes me prouder," he said.

The PNBC began in 1961 as a movement which reflected the religious, social and political climate of the time.

Its membership was made stronger by such leaders as Rev Dr Martin Luther King Jr, who for many years was the champion for the civil rights of African-Americans, and Rev Dr Gardener C Taylor, who later became one of the early presidents of the PNBC. Its mission was to transform the traditional African-American Baptist Convention as well as society as a whole.

The PNBC now comprises over 2.5 million members – 1.5 million in the US and over on million around the globe.

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Interested companies/firms may collect a Tender Specification from the Security's Desk located in the Administrative building on John F. Kennedy Drive, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The deadline for submission of tenders is on or before **Tuesday, September 7th, 2010**. Tenders should be sealed and marked "TENDER FOR MOTOR INSURANCE" and should be delivered to the attention of:

Mr. I. Kirk Griffin, Acting President and CEO
The Bahamas Telecommunications Company Ltd
P.O. Box N-3048, Nassau, Bahamas

BTC reserves the right to reject any or all Tenders.

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'Broadway Baby' concert with Dalia Feldman and friends

Performance of classic songs from her new CD

LOCAL stage performer Dalia Feldman will be hosting a special concert for the release of her new album featuring Broadway tunes to benefit the Grand Bahama Performing Arts Society.

Ms Feldman founded the Society in 2008 to support local performing arts students.

The concert will be held on September 25 at 8pm at the Regency Theatre in Freeport.

Ms Feldman will perform songs from the new CD, including classic tunes from "Cats", "The King and I", "Phantom of The Opera", "Thoroughly Modern Millie", "My Fair Lady", and other popular long-running Broadway shows.

Diverse

Sharing the stage will be local guest artists plus the international singer, composer and writer Robert Edwin, whose diverse career has seen him performing in New York City's Carnegie



Photo: Lyndah Wells

A CELEBRATION: To celebrate her album's release, a special concert will be held on September 25 at the Regency Theatre. Dalia Feldman will perform songs from the new CD featuring Broadway tunes. Proceeds will benefit the Grand Bahama Performing Arts Society.

Hall, with jazz legend Duke Ellington, in NBC Christmas specials, and with opera star Jerome Hines.

Mr Edwin also has extensive teaching credentials and will be conducting a master voice workshop for local students on September 26

together with Ms Feldman, who was his student for seven years while growing up in New Jersey.

Ms Feldman said the concert will be like coming home for her in many ways — by celebrating her long-time love of Broadway, by

helping the next generation explore their theatrical talents, and by making musical magic on her own birthday. The concert, "Broadway Baby", is presented by the Freeport Players Guild and the Grand Bahama Performing Arts Society.

Bahamas Electricity Corporation explains billing adjustment

THE Bahamas Electricity Corporation issued a statement to clarify the computed fuel charge applied to July consumption on customers' bills.

Contrary to the article in The Nassau Guardian, said a spokesman for the Corporation, — "BEC overcharges Customers 17 per cent" — which said that the impact of the billing, attributable to the inclusion of a 7 per cent stamp tax charge in the fuel charge computation, is of the order of 4 per cent. BEC was not billed stamp tax and ought not to have charged stamp tax on its July fuel imports.

BEC's bills comprise two components — a base rate and a fuel charge. The base rate, following introduction of the new tariff, is somewhat less than the fuel charge.

A 7 per cent stamp tax and 10 per cent customs duty was applied to the BEC fuel charge calculation.

The application of a 10 per cent customs duty resulted in an impact of approximately 5 per cent on the overall bill, which resulted in an increased customer overall bill of approximately 9 per cent.

BEC was granted a tax holiday and was not billed Customs Duty and Stamp tax on fuel import, for a two-year period.

Exemption

This exemption expired on June 30, 2010. As of July 1, 2010 Government introduced a 10 per cent levy on BEC fuel imports. This was applied to customer's bills.

"As you, our valued customers were not given advance notice of the introduction of the 10 per cent levy, BEC intends to make an adjustment to customer's August bills that will have the impact of reducing July bills by about 9 per cent, that is, the total overall impact of the Customs Duty and stamp tax that was charged.

As the 10 per cent customs duty constitutes a portion of our fuel costs under the new Tariff, the Corporation is entitled to recover this costs.

"As this is a cost that BEC cannot afford to

absorb, application has been made to Government to postpone the implementation of the 10 per cent duty until appropriate communication has taken

place with you, our valued customers."

"We do apologise," said the Corporation, "and ask that you continue to lend us your support as we tran-

sition through this period. Customers are strongly urged to conserve energy costs during these times by reducing unnecessary usage."

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LOCAL NEWS

Cuban migrants floating off Florida sent home

MIAMI

THE U.S. Coast Guard has returned to Cuba 25 migrants found floating off Florida shores, according to Associated Press.

The migrants were interdicted at sea in three separate incidents last week.

The Coast Guard says two migrants were spotted Friday floating on a plastic foam raft about 8 miles east of Islamorada. A Coast

Guard plane spotted 19 Cuban migrants about 30 miles north of Mariel, Cuba, on Wednesday and directed a cutter to them. Also on Wednesday, U.S. Customs and Border Protection plane spotted four migrants aboard a raft about 17 miles east of Sands Cut.

All the migrants received food, water, shelter and medical care aboard Coast Guard vessels.



MINISTRY OF FINANCE GN 1090

NOTICE

The Ministry of Finance invites Tenders for Customs Officers Uniforms for the year 2010/2011.

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8. Work Pants – Navy
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Tenders should be addressed to:
Financial Secretary
Ministry of Finance
Sir Cecil Wallace-Whitfield Building
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Nassau, The Bahamas Government

Sealed envelopes are to be clearly marked "Tenders for Customs Uniforms" should be submitted by September 20th 2010.

All uniform pants and skirts must be Tailor-made. Specification of the quantity and quality for uniforms may be collected at Custom House, Thompson Boulevard, Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. All rights are reserved to reject any or all tenders.

Financial Secretary (Acting)



Vandyke Hepburn/BIS

BACK TO SCHOOL: Corporal Christina King assists students at the Bartlett Hill Primary School cross the street during their first day back to school. Police on Grand Bahama were present throughout the island, especially in the school zones to ensure smooth traffic flow and that students had a safe day back to school.

GB police out in force as students go back to school

By DENISE MAYCOCK
 Tribune Freeport Reporter
 dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT – Police on Grand Bahama were out on the streets in full force early Monday morning as thousands of students headed back to the classrooms.

Senior Assistant Commissioner Quinn McCartney and many senior officers were overseeing traffic flows in the various school zones, particularly at the primary schools here on the island.

Police officers also distributed flyers to parents with helpful tips on road safety and important reminders for children, including the proper way to cross the street, and never to accept rides or talk with strangers.

Sandra Edgcombe, Superintendent for primary schools, reported that the first day of school went well at the major schools in Freeport.

There are 12 primary schools in the Grand Bahama District.

Ms Edgcombe visited the four big schools in the Freeport

area, including the Walker Park-er Primary, Freeport Primary, Maurice Moore Primary, and Hugh Campbell Primary.

"There were no major problems reported and at the schools I visited they were all fully staffed and ready to go."

"I have never seen such excitement from parents and students."

"The kids were all in proper uniforms with their bags filled with books," she said.

Most of the schools held a brief assembly/orientation for students and their parents.

Although Ms Edgcombe was unable to visit all of the schools on the island, especially those in west and east Grand Bahama, she placed telephone calls to the principals and administrators.

She reported that student attendance was not as expected at some of the schools.

"The schools in the east and west are smaller in number and... in some cases they haven't seen all of their children come in today, but we expect attendance to improve on Tues-

day when they have a full day of school," she explained.

Barbara Thompson, principal of Freeport Primary, said that many students did not show up for school.

"The first day went well, but we did not have very many students in today so I don't know if parents were aware that all students are to report today," she said.

Although she did not have an official count, it is estimated that around 300 students came out on Monday.

An administrator at the Lewis Yard Primary also reported low attendance.

"A lot of people thought that only new students should have come today, so all of the students did not come in, but all of our teachers, staff, and administrators were here," she said.

Student orientation and attendance at the two high schools – Jack Hayward and St George High Schools – are usually done in phases, with the ninth graders reporting on Monday, tenth graders on Tuesday, juniors and seniors on Wednesday.



Terrance Strachan/UGL

TRAINING SESSION: Pharmacists learn about the software ahead of the National Prescription Drug Plan.

Software training sessions for drug plan pharmacists

LAST week, National Prescription Drug Plan representatives and consultants of the Advanced Integrated Systems (AIS) of Jamaica held a number of training sessions for pharmacists and frontline workers from public and private pharmacies to further familiarise them with the Pro Health software programme that will be used for processing and adjudication of claims for the Drug Plan in the Bahamas.

The sessions were led by Drug Plan project manager Dr Stanley Lalta and Darren Pieart, customer service support manager for AIS.

Comfortable

While most attendees had already been exposed to the software, Dr Lalta explained that the purpose of the additional sessions was to ensure that the pharmacists would be completely comfortable with the programme when the National Prescription Drug Plan is launched.

"We wanted to provide

some additional training to pharmacists and frontline workers so that they can easily manage the claims processing system and they can readily dispense medication to members of drug plan," Mr Lalta said.

Mr Pieart explained that once an ACE Rx Card is swiped at a pharmacy the software allows for real time online adjudication and processing of claims in five to eight seconds.

He said the software has been widely used in Jamaica for 10 years with Jamaica's National Health Fund and processes claims for more than 400 participating pharmacies of the Fund as well as other health insurance companies in Jamaica.

He also said the online system will help to mitigate against the possibility of fraud that is more common with manual systems.

The National Prescription Drug Plan is currently in the final stages of testing before the imminent launch of Phase I.

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LOCAL NEWS

Travolta retrial will go ahead

FROM page one

Bahama Journal's report on the matter, which attributed the claim to "high level sources" in the Attorney General's Office.

"(To enter a) nolle prosequi is an act that can only be exercised by myself and the Attorney General's Office and I am not presently seized with any basis for proceeding in that regard. As far as the Attorney General's Office is concerned, the (retrial) action will proceed."

A retrial of Ms Bridgewater and Mr Lightbourne is set for Monday, September 6. It was ordered by Senior Justice Anita Allen following the close of the previous trial after an announcement by PLP MP Picewell Forbes at a political convention that Ms Bridgewater was a "free woman" caused concern that there had been outside communication from the jury room. Jurors were still deliberating at the time Mr Forbes made the announcement.

Some reports in the US tabloid media, which were also reiterated in the *Bahama Journal* report, have suggested that Mr Travolta no longer wishes to testify for the prosecution in the case, with this forming a basis for the matter to be dropped.

Mr Travolta testified in the first trial, which took place in the Supreme Court last September. His wife, Kelly Preston, is now expecting another child, and speculation is that this may have tempered his interest in pursuing the extortion case, which relates to the death of his 16-year-old son, Jett, at the family's vacation home on Grand Bahama in January 2009.

Yesterday Mr Travolta's attorney, Michael Perkins, issued the following statement to *The Tribune* regarding queries about Mr Travolta's position on the retrial and his involvement in it.

"The pending extortion prosecution in the Bahamas is under the authority of the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions and is at this time set for trial on September 6, 2010. In as much as Mr Travolta and members of his staff remain listed by that office as witnesses, it would be inappropriate to make further comment regarding that matter at this time."

This statement remains unchanged from an earlier one issued by Mr Perkins to the media on January 28, 2010, but for the exclusion in the latest communication of one sentence that appeared in the former.

That sentence read: "The Travolta family remains committed to full cooperation with all law enforcement and prosecution authorities in both the Bahamas and the United States."

Nonetheless, attorney for Ms Bridgewater, Wayne Munroe, also told this newspaper yesterday that he has received no information "to indicate that the trial is not going ahead."

"I have to prepare for the trial," said Mr Munroe.

He added that whether or not Mr Travolta wants to testify in the trial "has nothing to do with me."

"That's his concern. Whether he does or not, the Crown (represented by the Attorney General's Office) has the final decision as to what happens."

Asked about what impact any decision on behalf of Mr Travolta to not appear for the prosecution might have on the case being made by the prosecution, Mr Munroe said: "I don't think they have a case even if he comes."

Police identify year's 65th murder victim

FROM page one

detectives believe Mr Stubbs was shot in a car passing through the area just after 9pm and then dumped in Lady Slipper Avenue in Garden Hill Estates off Soldier Road.

Residents told police they heard gunshots in the area shortly before a car was seen speeding away from the place where Mr Stubbs' body lay, Mr Miller said.

But police have not yet been given a detailed description of the car or any information about who may have been driving it and how many people were in it.

Detectives are also asking witnesses to come forward with any information that may help them catch the killer.

Mr Miller said: "We are still in the midst of inquiries, and we are appealing to persons in the area to come forward with information."

Any information which may assist police investigations should be reported on 919, the Central Detective Unit (CDU) on 502-9991, or call Crime Stoppers anonymously on 328-TIPS (8477).



CRIME SCENE: The body is removed from the scene on Sunday night.

Massive hurricane approaches, tropical storm watch issued

FROM page one

these islands could feel strong winds as the hurricane "tracks parallel" to the north and northeastern islands over the next two days.

The centre of circulation for the storm should pass 150 miles to the north east of The Bahamas, said the weather forecaster.

"I don't think we'll see a direct impact but it's close enough that some portions of The Bahamas could see tropical storm force wind gusts and outer rain bands. Most likely that would be felt in the north, north eastern islands once we head into Tuesday night and during the day Wednesday.

"The other big thing is that as the centre of circulation is forecasted to pass a good deal north of The Bahamas you are going to see some high surf, large waves and dangerous rip currents. That should start to increase dramatically on Tuesday and during the day Wednesday. In the north, north eastern islands, east-facing beaches and shores could see wave heights of up to eight to 12 feet in some locations and dangerous rip currents, so they'll need to take precautions there."

At 5pm yesterday afternoon, Hurricane Earl was located at latitude 19.3 north and longitude 64.7 west, about 110 miles north east of San Juan, Puerto Rico. It



STORM APPROACH: The top of a palm tree lays on the road after being blown off by winds caused by the approaching Hurricane Earl in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Monday. (AP)

was characterised by maximum sustained winds of 135 miles per hour and was travelling west northwest at 15 miles per hour.

The hurricane yesterday battered small islands in the northeastern Caribbean, including Antigua and Barbuda, Anguilla and St Maarten with heavy winds and rain, despite not making landfall. Cruise ships were diverted in some of these areas, and flights cancelled.

It is now projected to make landfall along the eastern coast of the United States later in the week.

Meanwhile, a tropical depression hovering in the Atlantic behind Hurricane Earl formed into tropical storm Fiona yesterday afternoon. It was positioned at around 900 miles east of the lesser Antilles at around 5pm eastern standard time.

"We see that continuing to track west, maybe on similar track to Earl, affecting the north Leeward islands. That would take it through about Wednesday night into Thursday. Once we get to that stage the models are all over the place, some modeling says it is going to continue tracking westward affecting portions of The Bahamas, others have it curving to the north and out to sea. It will be interesting. We will have to see how the atmosphere recovers after Hurricane Earl," said Mr Edwards.

The Royal Bahamas Defence Force issued a statement yesterday afternoon announcing that leave for all members has been cancelled "as a standard precaution to this year's active hurricane season." It called on all personnel to return to their workstations so that officers can be briefed on the plans for the season.

At press time last night, Bastian's daughter was still in a serious, but "stable" condition. Police said they were following some leads into the murder.

"We have a team of officers out now investigating the matter and there are some leads that they are following," said ASP Leon Bethell, head of the Central Detective Unit.

Bastian was in the passenger seat of a Honda Accord driven by his girlfriend when a car pulled up beside them and opened fire. Bastian sustained multiple gunshot wounds to his upper body, and his three-month-old daughter sustained a gunshot wound to the head.

His girlfriend, who was still on maternity leave, escaped unscathed and drove to the parking lot of Solomon's Super Centre where she sought assistance.

The intended armed robbery charge against Bastian has now been dropped due to his death.

He had also reportedly been questioned by police in relation to a murder earlier this year, but was released.

FROM page one

tries – and the large volume of oil exploration applications inundating the government.

"The Ministry of the Environment has suspended consideration of all applications for oil exploration and drillings in the waters of the Bahamas. The ministry seeks, by this decision, to maintain and safeguard an unpolluted marine environment for the Bahamas notwithstanding the potential financial benefits of oil explorations," said a statement released by Dr Deveaux yesterday.

The release added that all existing licenses will be reviewed to ascertain any legal entitlement for renewal.

"We are not seeking to interfere with any existing licenses and the people who have licenses know of the policy. The recent events showed us that (a) oil if it is to be found, will likely be in the marine environment and (b) we want to maintain an unpolluted environment.

"And so before we explore for oil we want to have the most stringent environmental protocols in place," said Mr Deveaux when asked to clarify this point yesterday.

BPC Ltd recently partnered with Norwegian oil heavyweight Statoil to search for oil in some 2.5 million acres in Cay Sal Bank and hold five licenses for oil exploration. The government has not issued any licenses for oil drilling in Bahamian waters.

Environment Permanent Secretary Ronald Thompson said that while the ministry has yet to draft the necessary safety protocols, government will frame its future policies around existing ones from other countries.

Oil exploration

"We haven't drafted any but there are ones that are in existence in other places where oil is current being harvested or explored. We will in short order review all of those and come up with what we think will be the best (policies) for the Bahamas," said Mr Thompson.

Deepwater Horizon's oil rig exploded on April 20, killing 11 workers, and leaking an estimated 4.9 million barrels of oil from BP's underwater well.

Yesterday's statement said that calamity underscored the need for precautions.

"Given recent events involving oil exploration and the efforts to prevent pollution, this prudent safeguard is essential to preserving the most vital natural resource of the Bahamas – its environment," said the statement.

Speaking to *The Tribune*, Mr Deveaux said more stringent protocols could have prevented BP's disaster. "Everything we learned about BP suggests that there were a few mishaps that could have been avoided," he said.

In May, Dr Deveaux said it would be "impractical and unreasonable" for the Bahamas to shy away from oil exploration or drilling as a consequence of the environmentally devastating oil leak off the coast of the US state of Louisiana.

"The world is not going to shy away from oil because of this accident. This is not the first or the last," he said at the time.

He also said earlier that proper management of resources would be vital to any oil discovery in Bahamian waters.

Claim that man shot dead was to become prosecution witness

FROM page one

Abundant Life Road on Saturday night, was out on bail accused of a 2008 attempted armed robbery.

Sources close to the family claim the motive for the shooting was to prevent Bastian from testifying against certain persons at a criminal trial.

While the police are keeping silent on the matter, his attorney Romona Farquharson rejected this interpretation.

At press time last night, Bastian's daughter was still in a serious, but "stable" condition.

Police said they were following some leads into the murder.

"We have a team of officers out now investigating the matter and there are some leads that they are following," said ASP Leon Bethell, head of the Central Detective Unit.

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CLICO asset hunt hits a roadblock

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor



ASSET HUNT: Craig A Gomez

CLICO (Bahamas) liquidator yesterday endured a further minor set-back in his asset hunt when the US courts granted a protective order that drastically restricts the type of documents an American law firm must hand over to him.

Craig A. 'Tony' Gomez, the Baker Tilly Gomez accountant and partner, had been attempting to obtain records on 77 companies and persons he believes are connected to the insolvent life and health insurer's Trinidadian boss, Lawrence Duprey, as he continues his recovery bid on behalf of the firm's Bahamian policyholders and creditors.

However, the US law firm, Hunt & Gross, and a related entity, HCRM Corporation, were able to successfully petition the US Bankruptcy Court in south Florida to grant them an interim protective order restricting the type of documents they must hand over to Mr Gomez and his attorneys.

The court found "good cause" to grant the protective order, which restricts the documents that must be produced to fund transfers involving CLICO (Bahamas) assets only. And the only management, shareholder and operating agreement records that have to be produced relate solely to

entities in which CLICO (Bahamas) has a beneficial ownership interest.

The protective order remains in place until September 9, 2010, unless Mr Gomez and Hunt & Gross can settle their respective differences.

Describing Mr Gomez's request on behalf of CLICO (Bahamas) as "overly broad", Hunt & Gross alleged that the liquidator wanted "wholesale disclosure of documents relating to transfers and ownership of the business activities of 77 persons and entities, without regard to whether the business activities, transfer or ownership or management structures have any relevance to [CLICO

SEE page 3B

\$60m capital demand 'never seen before'

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

The Bahamian capital markets will venture into the unknown during the 2010 second half when an estimated \$60 million worth of corporate debt offerings come to market within the space of two to three months, a leading investment banking executive yesterday saying he "never seen this number of placements come to market in such a short period of time".

With the potential \$60-\$65 million Burns House/Commonwealth Brewery initial public offering (IPO) also hoping to get away by November 2010, a collective \$120 million-plus could be sought from the Bahamian capital markets before year-end, and Michael Anderson, RoyalFidelity Merchant Bank & Trust's president, told Tribune Business he was unsure whether there was enough investor appetite to consume all equity and debt offerings.

"I don't know," he told this newspaper, when asked whether there was enough investor appetite and surplus capital to ensure that the potential \$60 million worth of debt offerings, let alone the Burns House IPO, were fully subscribed.

"I don't think we've ever seen this number of placements come to market in such a short period of time," Mr Anderson told Tribune Business, adding that the last significant offerings had been the \$40 million Cable Bahamas preference share placement last year to finance the Columbus Communications buyout.

FOCOL Holdings also placed \$10 million in preference shares earlier this year, while

- * Leading investment banker unsure whether enough appetite for debt offerings coming to market, as Bahamas 'never seen' so many in two to three months
- * Warns that competition means issuers may have to pay more for capital due to competition, in terms of higher interest rate

Cable Bahamas recently refinanced an already-existing \$10 million preference share issue in recent months. Yet Mr Anderson said the Bahamian capital markets had probably experienced nothing like what was anticipated to happen between now and November, with numerous issuers all coming to market seeking capital - preference shares and bonds - at the same time.

Apart from Sunshine Holdings' \$10 million corporate bond issue that was unveiled yesterday (see other article on Page 1B), Tribune Business also understands that among the likely issuers is the College of the Bahamas, which is seeking to place a bond issue to refinance a Royal Bank of Canada credit line that was primarily used to finance construction of its Grand Bahama campus.

"There's no doubt there's liquidity in the market, but if there's \$60 million that's a

SEE page 3B

'Sun shines' for incubation via \$10m offering

- * Sunshine Holdings 'for first time' taps capital market via corporate bond placement
- * Wilson indicates proceeds may be used to assist group's role as 'incubator' for start-ups/entrepreneurs, doing better in the private sector what BDB and venture capital fund have attempted to do

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

SUNSHINE Holdings has for "the first time introduced itself" to the Bahamian capital markets with yesterday's unveiling of a private \$10 million corporate bond issue, its chairman telling Tribune Business "so many opportunities" came before it, including acting "as an incubator for business".

Franklyn Wilson said the private placement, which launched yesterday and is being handled

SEE page 3B

Business dream a reality through 'co-operation'

By CHESTER ROBARDS
Business Reporter
crobards@tribunemedia.net

A CULTURAL consortium has come to downtown Nassau, with arts, food and fashion the main focus of the Cultural Gallery and Studio, a company built with sweat equity and a little ingenuity.

Partners Gina Smith and Chevette Williamson had long held the idea of a cultural store downtown, but had zero capital to turn it into reality.

When they thought of building the company as a co-operative instead, with numerous small investors nestled under one roof, they struck gold.

According to Ms Williamson, there are four co-operative members who manage a plethora of merchandise options produced by Bahamians from across the country. "There was a cry from the tourists and the locals that there was not anywhere you could purchase Bahamian crafts," she said

"There was no place centrally located to purchase [authentic Bahamian] gift items, and there was no parking.

"You come to the Bahamas to learn about the people and the culture, and that was not available to them."

And so Third Eye Artworks and Collectibles, Cultureware,

Eyes Bahamian and Bijoux du Belle were opened on Bay Street directly across from the old Royal Bank of Canada on Bay Street and Victoria Avenue.

Third Eye exhibits the works of new and developing artists of all ages, with fine art photographs, polymer clay turtle designs and pencil drawings.

Cultureware offers locally-designed and produced ceramics, while Bijoux houses handmade pieces by Bahamian jewellery designer, Chevy's Accessories. And Eyes Bahamian has collections of clothing produced by several different Bahamian designers.

"We thought about buying from other artisans, said Ms Williamson. "But we said: 'Let me partner with other persons to accomplish that vision'.

"So we came together as a cop and we collaborated together - four of us, but individually as companies. With the straw section, it seems as if it's just one person with only one style of straw work, but the area is a consignment area, so a number of artists bring in their products."

Ms Williamson said the store was about the indigenous feel of the Bahamas, and they have brought in cuisine in the form

SEE page 3B

City Markets eyes GB food store exit

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

CITY Markets was yesterday said by multiple grocery industry sources to be in negotiations with Grand Bahama food store, Sawyer's Fresh Market, to allow the latter to take over its Eight Mile Rock-based food store.

Neither company would confirm nor deny that the deal was in process when contacted by Tribune Business, although it appeared to be something of an 'open secret' in the Bahamian food retail and wholesale industry, not to mention Grand Bahama, with multiple sources confirming their knowledge of the talks.

Struggling supermarket chain said by multiple food industry sources to be in talks to exit Eight Mile Rock store via Sawyer's Fresh Market take over

One contact said: "Sawyer's are taking over Eight Mile Rock. It was told it was going to happen, and it was sort of like a done deal."

And another confirmed: "Sawyer's is going to be taking it on. It's supposed to be before the end of the year." One source told Tribune Business that Sawyer's executives had been spotted at City Markets' Eight Mile Rock store, taking measurements and assessing what new equipment what needed.

It appears unlikely that the deal has closed yet, but if it does, it will reduce City Markets' store portfolio to a total of 10 - two in Grand Bahama, and the remaining eight in Nassau. Once a 12-store chain, it closed its former Tonique Williams-Darling Highway store last year, the road re-routing in that area having made it virtually inaccessible to potential customers.

When contacted by Tribune

SEE page 3B

GAS TRACKER

Shell \$4.38

Esso \$4.37

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The information contained is from a third party and The Tribune can not be held responsible for errors and/or omission from the daily report.

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BUSINESS

City Markets' shrinkage three times sector norm

Due to production problems that cut off the turn part of this article in Monday's newspaper, Tribune Business reprints it in full today

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

TROUBLED supermarket chain City Markets is continuing to incur "substantial" costs as a result of inventory 'shrink' levels that are running three times ahead of international industry norms, the company's chief executive has warned.

Adding that some jobs among the company's 700-strong workforce may be affected as the company bids to return to profitability by controlling and managing its operating costs, Derek Winford described inventory shrinkage - the loss of product to theft, spoiling and other factors before it hits the shelves - as a

"daunting problem" facing City Markets.

"We know that 'shrink' should be in the range of 2 per cent or lower, but our 'shrink' size is about 6 per cent of sales. The cost to the company is substantial," Mr Winford told Tribune Business in an e-mail.

"We have instituted much stricter inventory and financial controls, and are hopeful that this financial drain will be substantially reduced. Additionally, we have put in place an incentive programme for our employees which has been well received."

Dispelling the rumours and speculation swirling around the company, Mr Winford said: "The demise of City Markets is not imminent. The company, just like many others enterprises, locally and internationally, is having to fight through hardships created by the meltdown of

world economies and the impact upon all business sectors in the Bahamas.

"In addition to the difficulties caused by a poor economy, the company suffered a series of serious maintenance problems with refrigeration in a number of stores. I am now pleased to say that the problems have been corrected and we are back to normal. Further, to restore customer confidence in our business we are about to embark upon an impressive promotional campaign.

"On the question of the status of jobs for our employees, we have no immediate plans for reducing the workforce. However, as we continue to manage and control our oper-

ating costs, some employees may be affected."

In a brief conversation with Tribune Business, Mr Winford added: "We're doing OK. We're holding our own. The rumours don't help, because people talk. We need help from the Bahamian public."

Speculation about City Markets' future has been a constant theme following a dreadful series of financial years from the company from 2008 onwards, in which it has lost more than \$28 million.

City Markets' net losses for the year to March 31, 2010, increased by 35.4 per cent year-over-year to \$6.578 million, as opposed to a \$4.844 million net loss for the same period last

year.

That translated into a \$1.43 loss per share, compared to a \$1.06 per share loss in fiscal 2009, with the \$6.578 million loss for the first nine months exceeding Bahamas Supermarkets' \$6.069 million loss for the previous full year.

Much of City Markets' financial woes related to the sharp decline in its top-line net sales, which fell by 18.5 per cent in the nine months to March 31, 2010. The drop, from \$93.059 million a year ago to \$76.022 million this year, indicates it may still be losing market share in a food retailing industry that has become increasingly competitive via new entrants such as Robin Hood and Phil's Food

Services.

The only crumbs of comfort for City Markets were that the sales decline seemed to have slowed. For the quarter to March 31, they were only down 15.4 per cent at \$22.627 million, as opposed to \$26.756 million in the year before period.

This was an improvement upon the 2010 first half, when sales were off 19.5 per cent - standing at \$53.395 million compared to \$66.303 million the year before. While some of the sales decline was doubtless due to the recession, the figures also indicated that City Markets is struggling to win back customers who may have deserted it during its 2008-2009 travails.

ROYAL FIDELITY MARKET WRAP

By RoyalFidelity Capital Markets

IT WAS a slow week of trading in the Bahamian stock market. Investors traded in four out of the 24 listed securities, with one decliner and the other securities remaining unchanged.

EQUITY MARKET

A total of 13,510 shares changed hands,

representing an increase of 1,697 shares compared to the previous week's trading volume of 11,813 shares.

Commonwealth Bank (CBL) was the volume leader last week, with 7,500 shares trading to see its stock price close unchanged at \$6.72.

Benchmark Bahamas (BBL) was the lead decliner in the week, dropping by \$0.02 on a volume of 3,000 shares to close at \$0.18, a new 52-week low.

BOND MARKET

No notes traded in the Bahamian bond market last week.

COMPANY NEWS

Earnings Releases:

There were no earnings release from any of the listed companies last week.

The Bahamian Stock Market

BISX SYMBOL	CLOSING PRICE	CHANGE	VOLUME	YTD PRICE CHANGE
AML	\$1.04	\$-	0	-11.11%
BBL	\$0.18	-\$0.02	3,000	-71.43%
BOB	\$5.00	\$-	0	-15.25%
BPF	\$10.63	\$-	0	-1.02%
BSL	\$5.01	\$-	0	-50.20%
BWL	\$3.15	\$-	0	0.00%
CAB	\$10.77	\$-	0	7.92%
CBL	\$6.72	\$-	7,500	-4.00%
CHL	\$2.50	\$-	0	-8.09%
CIB	\$9.74	\$-	0	-2.50%
CWCB	\$1.94	-\$0.02	0	-31.93%
DHS	\$1.90	\$-	2,010	-25.49%
FAM	\$6.07	\$-	0	-6.47%
FBB	\$2.17	\$-	0	-8.44%
FCC	\$0.27	\$-	0	0.00%
FCL	\$5.01	\$-	1,000	5.03%
FCLB	\$1.00	\$-	0	0.00%
FIN	\$8.80	\$-	0	-5.17%
ICD	\$5.59	\$-	0	0.00%
JSJ	\$9.95	\$-	0	0.00%
PRE	\$10.00	\$-	0	0.00%

International Markets

FOREX Rates	Weekly	% Change
CAD\$	0.9511	-0.32
GBP	1.5523	-0.14
EUR	1.2739	0.19

Commodities	Weekly	% Change
Crude Oil	\$76.87	3.89
Gold	\$1,235.00	0.47

International Stock Market Indexes:	Weekly	% Change
DJIA	10,150.65	-0.62
S & P 500	1,064.59	-0.66
NASDAQ	2,153.63	-1.20
Nikkei	8,991.06	-2.05

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BUSINESS

Business dream a reality through 'co-operation'

FROM page 1B

of bush tea and authentic Bahamian treats, such as potato bread, tarts and benny cake. They have also incorporated wi-fi into the building as an added bonus for dining patrons, and have plans to host a reading for local and visiting children on Saturdays. "Saturdays will be a kids corner, at a set time, so they can come and listen to old stories and riddles, and obtain information about the people and the culture of the Bahamas," said Ms Williamson. "This is all about networking and helping others to succeed. It's about helping other artists and entrepreneurs to help their dream come true."

\$60m capital demand 'never seen before'

FROM page 1B

huge amount to invest in securities," Mr Anderson said. "As far as I can remember, we've never had so many come to market in such a short period of time, two to three months. It's all coming to market at the same time." One effect, he added, may be that some issuers have to pay more for their cost of capital by offering a higher interest rate to attract potential investors away from rival offerings. As a result, current interest rates on preference share/bond offerings, varying between 7.25 per cent and 7.5 per cent, might have to rise. "There has to be some recognition of pricing of securities," Mr Anderson told Tribune Business, "because investors are going to be looking at other offerings out there. If people bring out offerings that are

more risky, or are perceived to be more risky, you have to pay more for it. "You may have to price the offering higher to get the thing sold. People coming to market are going to have to recognise that if they're going to get it sold, they will have to pay more because of the competition from other issuers."

Issues

Mr Anderson's comments, and the imminent new issues, come against a backdrop of modest recovery in the Bahamian equity and capital markets, as indicated by the Bahamas International Securities Exchange's (BISX) 2010 half-year report. The BISX market, which has a total capitalisation of \$2.915 billion, saw trading volumes and values increase for the six months to June 30, 2010, even

stripping out the impact from the \$80 million trade of 5,954,600 Cable Bahamas shares as part of the Columbus Communications buyout. Removing this transaction resulted in \$13.438 million worth of shares, some 2.125 million in number, trading in the January-June 2010 period, compared to \$8.72 million worth of shares, numbering 1,655,638, trading in the same period in 2009. "For the three month period from April 1, 2010, to June 30, 2010, 1,406,070 shares traded for a value of \$8.017 million," BISX said. "This compares to the April 1, 2009, to June 30, 2009, period where 1,037,301 shares traded for a value of \$5.365 million. This represents an increase of 49.4 per cent in share value traded, and an increase in 35.6 per cent in share volume traded in 2010 compared to 2009. "For the six month period

ending June 30, 2010, excluding the Cable Bahamas transaction, the average daily trading volume was 17,078 shares, which equalled an average daily trading value of \$108,619. "During this six month period, April 2010 saw the highest average daily trading volume and value with 48,775 shares and \$283,409 trading, respectively. By comparison, the six-month period ended June 30, 2010, saw an average daily trading volume of 13,201 shares, which equalled an average daily trading value of \$69,459."

BISX's top five volume leaders were:

Cable Bahamas - 6,093,983 (75.4 per cent of total)

Commonwealth Bank - 652,416 (8.1 per cent)
FOCOL - 352,773 (4.4 per cent)
Colina Holdings - 180,129 (2.2 per cent)
Doctors Hospital - 147,357 (1.8 per cent)

BISX's five leaders in share value traded were:

Cable Bahamas - \$ 83.184 million (89.1 per cent of total)
Fidelity Bank Bahamas bond 15 - \$ 1.752 million (1.9 per cent)
FOCOL - \$1.719 million (1.8 per cent)
Commonwealth Bank - \$ 1.575 million (1.7 per cent)
Bahamas Waste - \$ 1.408 million (1.5 per cent)

CLICO asset hunt hits a roadblock

FROM page 1B

Bahamas] insolvency proceedings in the Bahamas". This is the second legal set-back from the US courts to hit Mr Gomez and the CLICO (Bahamas) liquidation within the space of a week, the same court having rejected on a technicality his plea for a 90-day extension to the deadline for him to reorganise the affairs of the property representing 63 per cent of the insolvent insurer's assets. The US District Bankruptcy court for south Florida rejected the plea by finding that neither he nor his US attorneys provided adequate notice of the hearing on his plea to interested parties. Tribune Business previously reported that Mr Gomez wanted more time to complete Wellington Preserve's sale to a new buyer, the potential deal with initial front runner, the Hines Group, having fallen through. In his August 10, 2010, filing with the US courts, Mr Gomez and his attorneys said they placed Wellington Preserve in Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection after the Hines Group deal collapsed, as CLICO (Bahamas) main asset - as previously revealed by Tribune Business - needed to be protected from a \$1.5 million judgment entered against it and numerous other creditors, who include the US Internal Rev-

enue Service (IRS). Pleading for more time to reorganise Wellington Preserve's affairs via a 90-day extension, Mr Gomez argued that the US court would be justified in granting this because the upscale real estate development's multi-million dollar worth was far greater than the judgment and other creditors' claims against it. Mr Gomez, who is both president and director of Wellington Preserve Corporation, said in his court filing: "The property is presently encumbered by outstanding and unpaid real estate taxes; a judgment for approximately \$1.5 million, a certified copy of which was recorded during the preference period; and minor mechanic's liens claims totalling less than \$50,000. "In this very unusual case, there is no mortgage. The entire parcel, before some lots were subdivided and sold, was purchased for \$55 million in 2004. The estimated 'as built' sellout for the lots was over \$120 million. As is, even in the economy of today, the property is worth tens of millions of dollars - enormously in excess of the encumbrances." This underpinned the extension rationale, and Mr Gomez said: "While negotiations are proceeding well with a potential purchaser, which represents that it has raised substantial funding for a down payment, as well as its carrying, operational

and improvement costs, the prospective purchaser still needs to obtain financing in place for the balance of the purchase price." Given this development, Mr Gomez said he "does not wish to see the property forced to auction at a relatively 'fire sale' price" by its creditors, as this would reduce considerably any sums he is ultimately able to recover for CLICO (Bahamas) Bahamian creditors and policyholders. A 'fire sale' of Wellington Preserve would leave them even worse off, almost 18 months after the insurer was placed into liquidation. In his filing with the US courts, Mr Gomez said some \$73 million passed from CLICO (Bahamas) into Wellington Preserve via CLICO Enterprises, the Bahamian-domiciled entity that was 100 per cent owned by the former. These funds were loaned to the Florida-based real estate development, "over and above some \$10 million of capitalisation". As a result, the CLICO (Bahamas) liquidator took another swipe at the insolvent insurer's mastermind, Lawrence Duprey, head of downfallen Trinidadian financial conglomerate, CL Financial, stating: "CLICO (Bahamas) was an insurance company which apparently was used as a 'cash cow' by those in control to, among other things, divert money into real estate investments in south Florida and elsewhere."

City Markets eyes GB food store exit

FROM page 1B

Business about the potential deal, Sandy Sawyer, proprietor of Sawyer's Fresh Market, replied: "Unfortunately, I can't comment on that." He directed this newspaper to speak with Derek Winford, City Markets' chief executive. And, when contacted, Mr Winford responded: "It's all rumours. There's so many things flying about about who's buying, who's selling." City Markets' management team and the company's controlling shareholder, Trinidadian conglomerate Neal & Massy, are thought to be assessing numerous strategies in a bid to turnaround the ailing supermarket chain, which has sustained consistent heavy losses under earlier management/operating partners following its \$54 million buyout from Winn-Dixie in summer 2006. Informed sources told Tribune Business that even in the good times under Winn-Dixie, the Eight Mile Rock store's profitability was frequently marginal, and as the poorest performer it was the weak link in the City Markets chain. "It makes perfect sense to me," one source said of the Eight Mile Rock exit strategy. "The store's not in the greatest location, it's a small market out there and it will feel the

pinch earlier than the other stores." As City Markets, and its Bahamas Supermarkets parent, own no real estate, all the stores being leased, it seems likely that any deal with Sawyer's would involve the latter taking over the existing lease, and retaining the inventory and staff. However, a complete exit from Grand Bahama is not on the cards. City Markets' two other stores in downtown Freeport and at Lucaya, apart from being key sales drivers, also have as their landlord the Butler family, who are key investors in the chain's 78 per cent majority shareholder, BSL Holdings. Mr Winford told Tribune Business earlier this year that City Markets' Grand Bahama stores - especially downtown Freeport and Lucaya - were continuing to act as a drag on the company's overall sales performance. While sales in Nassau were less than 9 per cent down on 2009 comparatives, Grand Bahama sales were down 20 per cent. Mr Winford told Tribune Business at the time that City Markets was focused on cost cutting and increased efficiencies at its Nassau head office and warehouse in the first instance, with attention likely to switch to its store portfolio at a later date.

'Sun shines' for incubation via \$10m offering

FROM page 1B

by CFAL, marked the first occasion that the group had gone to the wider Bahamian capital markets for financing, instead of holding one-on-one discussions with interested institutional investors. He indicated that Sunshine Holdings, which has diverse holdings and businesses spread across the Bahamian economy, might use a portion of the capital raised to help finance the business plans/ventures of the numerous entrepreneurs that regularly approached the group for capital and other forms of assistance. Confirming that Sunshine Holdings was indeed seeking to raise \$10 million via the private placement of corporate bonds, Mr Wilson told Tribune Business: "We were approached by some people who asked if they could be a part of what we're doing, and we said we will go out and see what the market thinks. "We have, over the years, placed a lot of corporate bonds with institutions, and at this point in time a number of large banks and insurance companies hold our corporate bonds. "Previously, we had direct

discussions with institutional investors interested in our offerings. This is the first time we've gone about it this way. This is the first time we've allowed one of the corporate finance houses to introduce us to the local capital markets, and we will see what they say. We'll see where it leads." Mr Wilson told Tribune Business that Sunshine Holdings had "so many gross opportunities" coming to it that it was looking at becoming an "incubator" for start-up Bahamian companies and entrepreneurs. **Funds** He indicated that some of the funds raised would be used for this purpose, with Sunshine Holdings aiming to show the private sector could do better than the public sector, in the shape of the Bahamas Development Bank and government-sponsored venture capital, in this area. "As a private company, people come to us all the time with proposals. They think we have some knowledge about business," Mr Wilson told Tribune Business. "We have a bit of an opportunity to be an incubator for business. There are a lot of

businesspeople out there who today can benefit from the credibility of the Sunshine Boys, who have been doing this for over 40 years." Pointing to the "couple of million dollars" that Sunshine Holdings had invested last year in a venture proposed by a group of Bahamian entrepreneurs, Mr Wilson said: "That's an example of being an incubator for business. "Depending on how this capital market thing goes, it has the potential to transform the incubation of businesses and to do in the private sector what has not worked in the public sector, through the Bahamas Development Bank and the Bahamas Entrepreneurial Venture Fund. We have the opportunity to do this through the private sector." And he added: "People come to us. There's never a month where some person somewhere, a would-be entrepreneur, does not come to us with some cred-

itable idea. "Some do not make sense, but some are creditable. They are not just looking for capital, but also credibility. If we back it, they are able to attract other investors." Sunshine Holdings' \$10 million corporate bond offering is a private placement, not a public offering, targeting only select institutional and high-net worth investors, plus their advisers. Therefore, the public should not seek to subscribe for the bonds. Although a private company, Mr Wilson said Sunshine Holdings, as a group, had decided to behave "more and more" as if it was a public company, adhering to corporate governance, transparency, accountability standards and prudential norms as if it was a listed entity. Sunshine Holdings' interests include Arawak Homes, Sunshine Insurance Brokers & Agents, RoyalStar Assurance and FOCOL Holdings.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS 2010

IN THE SUPREME COURT Cle/qui/

Common Law & Equity Division

IN THE MATTER OF all that piece parcel or lot of land being Lot Number Thirteen (13) in Block Number ninety-one (91) on a plan of Grants Town being Map Number 03-50 and running on the **WEST** seventy (70) feet on the **SOUTH** running thereon ninety (90) on the **EAST** running thereon eighty-five (85) feet on the public road and on the **NORTH** Eighty (80) situate in the Island of New Providence one of the Islands of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas

AND

IN THE MATTER OF the Petition of Anna Veronica Colebrooke Hutcheson Lewis under the Quieting Titles Act, 1959

NOTICE

The Quieting Titles Act 1959

The Petition of Anna Veronica Colebrooke Hutcheson Lewis of the Western District of the Island of New Providence aforesaid in respect of

ALL THAT piece parcel or lot of land being Lot Number Thirteen (2) in Block Number ninety-one (91) on a plan of Grants Town being Map Number 03-50 and running on the **WEST** seventy (70) feet on the **SOUTH** running thereon ninety (90) on the **EAST** running thereon eighty-five (85) feet on the public road and on the **NORTH** Eighty (80) situate in the Island of New Providence one of the Islands of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas

Anna Veronica Colebrooke Hutcheson Lewis claims to be the owner in fee simple in possession of the said land free from encumbrances and has made an application to the Supreme Court in the Commonwealth of the Bahamas under section 3 of The Quieting Titles Act, 1959 to have her title to the said land investigated and the nature and extent thereof determined and declared in a Certificate of Title to be granted by the Court in accordance with the provisions of the said Act.

A plan of the said land may be inspected during normal office hours in the following places:-
(a) The Registry of the Supreme Court in the said City of Nassau in the Island of New Providence
(b) The Chambers of Lennox Paton, Counsel & Attorneys-at-Law, Chambers, Fort Nassau Centre, Nassau, Bahamas.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that any person having an Adverse Claim or a claim not recognized in the Petition shall on or before the 15th day of October, A.D. 2010 file in the undersigned a statement of her claim in the prescribed form, verified by an Affidavit to be filed therewith. Failure of any such person to file and serve a statement of his claim on or before the said 15th day of October, A.D. 2010 will operate as a bar to such claim.

Dated this 27th day of August, 2010

RAQUEL L. WILSON
Lennox Paton
Counsel & Attorneys-at-Law
Chambers
Fort Nassau Centre
Nassau, The Bahamas

Freeport Medical Clinic
Pioneer's Way



Gregory C. Neil, M.D.
Cosmetic Surgery
Reconstructive Surgery
Surgery of the Hand

The regularly scheduled
Plastic Surgery Clinic will be held in
Freeport on Wednesday 1st, September and
on Wednesday 20th, October, 2010
10:00 am to 1:00 pm at Dr. Horsfall Office

Please call (242) 356-3189 (Nassau Clinic)
(242) 351-7580 (Freeport Clinic)

To schedule or confirm appointment

Bahamas Plastic Surgery
the art and science of rejuvenation



PHOENIX

Notice of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Of the Shareholders and Agenda

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders of Phoenix Four, Inc. will be held on Tuesday, September 28, 2010 at Dolce Hotels and Resorts, located at 135, Chaussee de Bruxelles, 1310 La Hulpe in Brussels.

Registration will commence at 10h30 in anticipation of a 11h30 start. The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

AGENDA

- Opening Statement from the Chairman
- BDO/SRC Litigation Update
- Asset Summary
- Review of 2009 Audited Financial Statements
- Review of 2010 Net Asset Value
- Cash Position and Projection for 2010 and 2011
- Share Purchase Offer
- Review of Resolutions
- Future Plans
- Closing Statement

Dated the 27th day of August 2010.

By order of the Board.

WOMAN

The Tribune **B O D Y A N D M I N D** **health**



EMBARRASSING: Many patients suffer in silence because they are afraid to discuss embarrassing health issues with their doctor.

Suffering IN Silence

What people want to know about common health complaints but are too embarrassed to ask their doctors

By **JEFFARAH GIBSON**
Tribune Features Writer

WHEN it comes to embarrassing health issues, doctors have seen and heard it all. But the fear of speaking up in the doctor's office may lead many people to suffer in silence.

Even though some embarrassing health problems are hard to talk about, Dr Myles Poitier, MD, CCFP at the Cable Beach Medical Clinic strongly advises patients to abstain from self treatments and see their family doctors.

"No matter how small a person might think their issue is, they should still see a general practitioner because there are certain things that must be ruled out. People should never be ashamed to talk to their doctors about anything. It is the role of their

GP to make sure their patients are comfortable enough to talk about anything with them," Dr Poitier told *Tribune Health*.

Dr Poitier gave possible causes of some of the most common embarrassing health issues. However this, he said, does not and should not replace a visit to a family doctor.

• **Sexual Dysfunction**

"Men are more embarrassed than woman are when it comes to this issue. Men sometimes complain about not being able get an erection," Dr Poitier said.

Erectile dysfunction can be a side effect of taking some drugs or psychological conditions can be a factor. For instance, stress, depression, or worrying. "People should also make sure they are interested and attracted to their partner," he said.

Dr Poitier added that sexual dysfunction is not something that people should try to diagnose themselves. He said things like hypertension, diabetes and other disorders must be

ruled out," he said.

• **Premature Ejaculation**

"Premature ejaculation is not easy to treat. This is sometimes caused if a person has not had sexual relations in a while. Premature orgasm also can be caused by too much excitement."

Because it is difficult to treat premature ejaculation some people are referred to sex therapist and sex counseling to correct the problem he said.

• **Genital Rash**

Genital rashes are symptoms of a number of sexually transmitted diseases. Therefore persons should not take this issue lightly. "Of course a person must be examined to rule out certain diseases. We will ask the patient about his or her sexual history. We will ask them how many people they have been involved with because diseases must be ruled out," Dr Poitier explained.

He also said fungal infections from the heat can cause genital rashes. "Women who use tampons or sanitary shields may experience rashes on their genitals. Lice, ticks, scabies, can also be causes of genitals rashes," he said.

Dr Poitier said if a person is comfortable that the rash they have is consistent with a previous condition then and only then they can self treat. "Unless they are sure this is something they had before they can treat themselves," he explained.

• **Razor Bumps/ Ingrown Hair on genitals**

Razor bumps and ingrown hairs in the pubic region are two other embarrassing common health issues experienced by both men and women. They are painful and unsightly. Dr Poitier said they are not a major cause for concern but urge people to see their doctor so they can get the proper medication to treat it. "In some cases ingrown hairs can get out of hand and turn into an abscess."

• **Vaginal Secretions**

Vaginal secretions are part of the menstrual cycle of a woman. Usually during the ovulation period women will notice that they have vaginal secretions. "Vaginal secretions is normal. If there is no odour with it and it is a faint discharge then everything is normal. If however, the discharge has a strong odour then women should be concerned," he said.

• **Bad Breath**

"A person does not necessarily have to come into the doctor for this. Certain foods one eats and dental problems can cause bad breath. They should go to a dentist to make sure it is not a cavity that is causing the bad breath," said Dr Poitier.

• **Uncontrollable Flatulence**

"A change of diet can cause uncontrollable flatulence to occur. Some people know that if they change their diet to lactose they flatulate more."

He said if uncontrollable flatulence is accompanied by abdominal bloating or pain and persist for a few days it can be a sign of something more serious.

LOVING RELATIONSHIPS

Abusive Love

AS WE meander down the road towards our final destination, we continue in our quest to understand the many twists and turns of love. We start life with pure and unblemished images of our future love and life. A life filled with joy, happiness and the eternal promise of hope.

We feel secure in our memories of being suckled on our mother's breast, and the milky smell of her skin. With closed eyes, we sense that feeling of being protected and cherished. Then, once in a while we experience picture perfect recall of being the centre of attention and everyone's favourite playmate. Our hearts feel full and life feels good. Is it possible for life to continue on in such rosy optimism? Or is it inevitable that our hopefulness will be dashed at different stages of life?

For some people, no matter how hard they try; they cannot draw on any warm memories. For those who can actually recall, and have not blocked out the painful past, childhood only conjures up feelings of emptiness. Feelings of a deep hollowness that insist on sucking you back into that place of loneliness. A childhood where you feel you had little to

no supervision. In fact, you learnt by trial and error, and survived by either taking the tough knocks or dodging the curve balls. Cohabiting with family who showed a coldness and lack of caring were all you knew, and thought was normal. It was only when you stood beside a parent and child who interacted with each other in such a shockingly contrasting manner, that you were shaken into a new reality.

Normalcy for some is completely foreign to another. Early exposure to sex can make a young mind mature beyond their years. Basic instincts of 'this feels good' and 'this must be love' take deep root and are hard to cut free. Advanced sexual techniques place them in the head of the class of experience and competency. Sexually

self-confidant mannerisms take hold, or at least can be drawn on at short notice, and messages are relayed at lightening speed. They then become highly sought after by older predators and a cycle of repeat behaviour begins.

Once we take the time to listen to and learn where people have come from, then we can live in their shoes for a while. We begin to understand why they seem to be instinctively drawn to certain types of people. Love maps are almost tattooed into our subconscious. Even as we become aware of our own weaknesses, it may seem impossible to 'teach an old dog new tricks'. But with a conscious decision, or professional help, it is possible to hold back and be more cautious before investing heavily in a new relationship.

That may work well for those who plan and try to make conscious choices in life. For others, life just seems to 'happen' and they often find themselves heavily attached to someone who may not be good for them. Before they know it, marriage and children come along and suddenly they realise there is no 'quick way out'.

For many the relationship revolves around 'put downs', 'quick come backs or put downs', jealousy, irritable and explosive behaviour. Describing their partners as classic 'Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde' personalities seem to

illustrate them perfectly. Public persona versus private becomes the norm.

Why people stay in such unhealthy relationships is always a mystery for those who would never tolerate such behaviour. 'Tolerate' is the key word because what we are used to is what we believe is normal. Unfortunately, tolerance levels usually start to escalate and behaviour moves from verbal to physical. Let us not forget sexual abuse thrown in the mix. How many times does a wife have to succumb to sexual intercourse, just to prevent an anger outburst?

As dysfunctional as this may seem, abusive love still feels like love to those involved. Love is such an abstract concept and is directly influenced by our early values. All the more reason that as parents we pay attention to our actions, and reactions of our children. How we act today, directly affects their tomorrow.

•Maggie Bain is an individual and couples relationship therapist. She is a registered nurse and a certified clinical sex therapist.

Listen to 'Love on the Rock' with Maggie Bain every Thursday 5pm-6pm on Island FM 102.9.

For appointments call 364-7230, e-mail relatebahamas@yahoo.com or visit www.relatebahamas.blogspot.com.

FOOT SOLUTIONS

Think feet first - teachers!



By **BERNADETTE GIBSON**

TODAY, we continue with our 'Back-to- School' theme by focusing on teachers. Teachers are among the group of people who are on their feet more than four hours per day, and many teachers constantly complain of aches in their feet, ankles, knees, lower back and shoulders. What you wear on your feet often contributes to the majority of these problems.

In today's fashion conscious world, while it is important for female teachers to look their very best by complementing that perfect outfit with a cute pair of high heel shoes, or for male teachers trendy looking shoes, it is absolutely necessary to note that these magnificent creations often lead to foot pain at the end of the day. While this is quite understandable, I would recommend that you follow these simple tips to get away with looking your best while feeling great on your feet:

1. WOMEN, try to choose shoes with a reasonable heel height of 1.5 to 2 inches. Look for shoes that provide ample toe room (beware of pointed toe styles) and contain a back strap or enclosed back. The same holds true for men with the exception of heel height.

2. IF YOU are having trouble achieving the appropriate fit with shoes you already own, take them to a local specialty footwear store or Pedorthic facility who may be able to modify your shoes to better fit your feet.

3. PURCHASE a slim arch support/orthotic that your shoe can accommodate. Specialty footwear stores and Pedorthic facilities have options that will fit almost any shoe. Orthotics are especially designed to reduce discomfort associated by high heeled shoes and sandals.

In summary, it is important to note that while high heels are not the best for your feet, you can take measures to minimise some of the symptoms associated from wearing high heels, such as pain in the back of the legs (and long term, shortening of the calf muscles!), ball of the foot pain, pain under the arch and heel. A lower heel height, properly fitted and a supportive shoe combined with an accommodative orthotic/arch supports will put your feet in balance, and in turn improve the alignment of the rest of your body. Teachers take steps to think on your feet pain free and feel great in the classroom!

• Bernadette D. Gibson, a Board Certified & licensed Pedorthist, is the proprietor of Foot Solutions, a health and wellness franchise that focuses on foot care and proper shoe fit, located in the Sandyport Plaza, Nassau.

"The views expressed are those of the author and does not necessarily represent those of Foot Solutions Incorporated or any of its subsidiary and/or affiliated companies. Please direct any questions or comments to nassau@footsolutions.com or 327-FEET (3338).

WOMAN

JOINING HANDS FOR HEALTH

Preconception Health

• Women between the age of 18 and 35 are at the prime of their reproductive years. Whilst many women may face reproductive challenges such as infertility, most will become pregnant at some point, once sexually active. The outcome of pregnancy is determined long before the point of conception. Therefore the health of women in this age range is a priority concern for health care providers in the Maternal and Child Health Services of the Bahamas. In this article, Gina Dean SNO, and Coordinator of the Maternal and Child Health Programme share on the importance of Preconception Health in the population.)

What is Preconception Health (PCH)?

Preconception health refers to the health of women of reproductive (or childbearing) age when they are in a non-pregnant state. This includes adolescents and women, before they become pregnant for the first time, as well as women who are between pregnancies.

Why is there a need to focus on PCH?

We need to focus on PCH because of the strong and important link between the health status of a woman before she becomes pregnant, and her health status and that of her baby, during pregnancy, during childbirth and during the (postpartum) period just after she had her baby. The better a woman's health is before she becomes pregnant, the healthier she and her baby are likely to be after she gives birth.

What is PCH care and what is the main goal of PCH care?

Preconception health care is the educational, promotional and preventive

health services provided to women before conception (that is, before becoming pregnant). The main goal is to improve a woman's health before conception (before a first or subsequent pregnancy). The objective of PCH care is to identify factors (diseases, infection, 'risky' health behaviours) associated with negative pregnancy outcomes (deformity, miscarriages, low birth weight etc) so that they can be modified through clinical interventions (treatment) and behavioural changes.

Who are the target groups for the promotion of PCH?

The target group for PCH is all women of reproductive age. That is, females from menarche to menopause, who are capable of having children, even if they do not intend to get pregnant (11 - 50 years). Although females are our primary focus, PCH services also target males; recognising that men are partners and key contributors in reproduction.

What are some of the risk factors for poor pregnancy outcomes among women and infants?

Risk factors for poor pregnancy outcomes include:

- Medical conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, obesity, sickle cell disease (partners who are both carriers of the sickle cell trait should seek counseling before conception), sexually transmitted infections, vitamin and mineral deficiencies (folic acid deficiency is especially important), periodontal disease
- Poor pregnancy history such as repeated premature labour and spontaneous abortions, previous miscarriages, death of baby soon after birth or before the age of two and previous

low birth weight infants.

- Lifestyle behaviours such as smoking/illicit drugs, over use of alcohol, and poor nutritional intake
- Psychosocial risks such as abusive relationships (physical, sexual or mental), and poor housing conditions
- Environmental exposures such as exposure to passive tobacco smoke, chemicals, lead, and radiation
- Social, economic and physical risks associated with adolescent pregnancy
- Age related factors such as the increased risk of chromosomal problems for older women. Advancing age also increases risk of hypertension and diabetes in pregnancy.

What can women do to improve their PCH?

- Take a proactive approach to your reproductive health. Have a plan; decide whether you want to have children, when you want to have children, and whether you are physically, mentally and economically prepared for children. Make the necessary changes in your life that is needed based on your answers to these questions so that your reproductive health will go in the direction you would like.
- Be aware of your health status and the risk factors that might be present or contribute to poor pregnancy outcomes and make the necessary changes early.
- Begin or continue to have regular preventive health visits with your doctor
- Have a pre-pregnancy check-up once deciding to get pregnant.

What should women expect during a PCH visit?

Preventive visits should be a part of your routine yearly check-up or pri-



BEING PREPARED: Preconception health includes adolescents and women, before they become pregnant for the first time, as well as women who are between pregnancies.

mary care visit. This visit should include disease screening, and should seek to address the majority of your personal health care needs as well as address any existing health problems. It will also include risk assessment, reproductive history tracking, medication being taken, nutritional pattern, monitoring of folic acid intake, weight management, substance use, vaccinations, family planning methods, and all social and mental health concerns, including support networks, domestic violence and housing. These are all important to a healthy reproductive life.

Where can women go to access PCH services?

PCH services can be accessed wher-

ever individuals receive their primary health care services. This includes all community health clinics on New Providence and the Family Islands, as well as private primary health centres. Most health care facilities do not generally include the term pre-pregnancy or preconception health in their list of services but all of the components of PCH are available at most of these facilities. Ask for the service at your next visit.

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 • For more information on preconception care and other topics on women and family health contact the Maternal and Child Health Secretariat of the Department of Public Health at telephone numbers 502-4883 or 502-4778.

GREEN SCENE

By Gardener Jack



GOOD SOIL: The use of compost to condition soil leads to healthy vegetables and flowering shrubs.

Conditioning the soil

Our Bahamian soil is young in geological terms and there is not a lot of it. Any help we can give to improve or condition the soil will be rewarded by increased plant production.

The Bahamas is a mountainous country but the mountains are below the sea and their tops are flat and composed of oolitic limestone, which is highly alkaline. The problem with alkaline soil is its reluctance to allow mineral salts to be in the right state to be absorbed by plant roots. This phenomenon is called 'tying up' and means that fertilisers applied to highly alkaline soil are unable to be used efficiently by plants.

Native plants in The Bahamas are adapted to alkaline soil and

many exotics have a wide tolerance that permits them to grow well here. Many others, however, prefer acid soil and barely survive. One good example is ixora. Planted straight into the ground ixora will soon show signs of stress and the leaves will suffer from chlorosis.

Flowering will be reluctant and the whole vitality of the plant will be debilitated. Ixora needs help and that comes from conditioning the soil.

Alkaline soil can be treated with sulphur in the form of powder, or flowers of sulphur. If sulphur is worked into the soil around shrubs it can reduce alkalinity substantially and allow better absorption of fertiliser.

Another remedy is to apply Sequestrene 138-Fe, a specialised

chelated iron that acts as a catalyst and promotes the absorption of mineral salts. This remedy is expensive but only a little Sequestrene is required for each treatment.

The applications of sulphur and chelated iron are temporary and the treatment must be ongoing. The best and more permanent way to condition the soil is to add rotted material that we generally refer to as compost.

I know as soon as many readers come across the word compost they will sigh and turn the page. Compost is a bugbear to many gardeners because the old fashioned ways of making it were time consuming and laborious, not to mention smelly.

These days you can buy a tum-

bler-type composter that gives you workable compost in a month. Even simpler, you can add your composting materials directly to the soil.

Have a small bucket by the back door and fill it with kitchen vegetable trimmings, coffee grounds and used paper towels – as long as they have not been used to mop up oil. Dig a hole in your vegetable garden as deep as you can and put your waste inside and refill the hole. Water it and mark the position with a stick, then work on your next bucketful.

Here in the subtropics organic material breaks down very quickly. Within a few weeks your fortified holes will contain a rudimentary form of compost that your vegetables will enjoy.

Ideally a compost is composed of green or nitrogen matter mixed with brown or carbon matter in the ratio of 3-1, though experi-

enced gardeners will argue at length over their own favourite ratio.

Green nitrogen matter includes fruit and vegetable scraps, coffee grounds, tea bags, eggshells, green plant material, peanut shells, hair, grass clippings, and the shells of all peas and beans.

Brown carbon matter includes dry grass, sawdust, wood ashes, nutshells, shredded newsprint (use yesterday's Tribune!), kitchen towels, tissue paper, corncobs, and dry leaves.

This form of composting is about as easy as it gets. If you compost your garden in this way on a regular basis you will eventually have a vegetable garden that only needs the occasional application of fertiliser in order to produce the best vegetables possible.

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 • gardenerjack@coralwave.com

WOMAN

Expecting? How to look your best

By ARA

It's no secret that pregnancy does not always bring out one's inner glamour girl. As your waistline and bust balloon, it's easy to lose all sense of fashion and hide in baggy sweats, oversized button downs, or even your husband's jeans.

Amy Tara Koch, trend expert and author of "BUMP IT UP: Transforming Your Pregnancy Into the Ultimate Style Statement," demonstrates that a baby bump does not translate into losing one's fashion identity. In fact, Koch shows moms easy tips and tricks to transform a handful of basics into dozens of maternity looks. The trick? Accessorizing, layering and rotating key silhouettes per trimester.

"Maximum style, minimal maternity," advises Koch. "You don't need to invest your child's college tuition on a full-blown maternity wardrobe. Style is about mixing and matching compelling accent pieces. 'BUMP IT UP' shows moms how a handful of basics can yield dozens of jaw dropping prego ensembles."

trend reports and even consulting top designers, Koch has helped translate some of the top trends for new or soon-to-be moms from the runway to the "realway":

• **EMBRACE YOUR WAIST:** Silhouettes remain in the spotlight, so when the notion of zipping your pants becomes comical, use an elasticised band. The soft, seamless stretchy band miraculously sheaths unzipped, rolled to the hips pants, helping extend the lifespan of jeans, trousers and skirts. A lightweight, thigh length top romantically draped over the band "camouflages" your handiwork.

• **GO WITH THE FLOW:** Don't pack up the floaty, easy-to-wear shift dresses from your first trimester when your stomach balloons. Instead sport them as tunics. Just add leggings, kitten heels or a heeled wedge.

• **SHOE IT UP:** A heel visually lengthens your silhouette and balances out your tummy-enhanced proportion. You don't need 5-inch Carrie Bradshaw stilettos, but, height will balance out the bulge, elongate your body and add that soupcon of glamour that transforms dumpy to diva.

• **SUPER ACCESSORISE:** When shimmering chain belts no longer circle your girth, pop them over your head for a flashy looking necklace. Tie belts can also be worn as lariat necklaces.

• **KEEP YOUR SHAPE:** A bra that provides shape and support is a lingerie must-have to accentuate and support your curves as your body continues to change before, during and after pregnancy. Pick up seamless microfiber undies and bras which are comfortable and perfect under dresses.

• **BID ADIEU TO BULK:** As you sleekify your wardrobe, say goodbye to clunky, unattractive diaper bags. Pampers has recently introduced their new chic, high performance diaper, Pampers Cruisers with Dry Max. Not only are they Pampers driest diaper ever as they help lock in wetness, but they are 20 percent thinner than before which means mom can carry more within less space, so grab a chic diaper clutch.

• **GET THAT GLOW:** Self tanner is the ultimate pick me up so use it strategically on face and body and it will nip the "you look tired" comment in the bud. Courtesy of ARAcontent



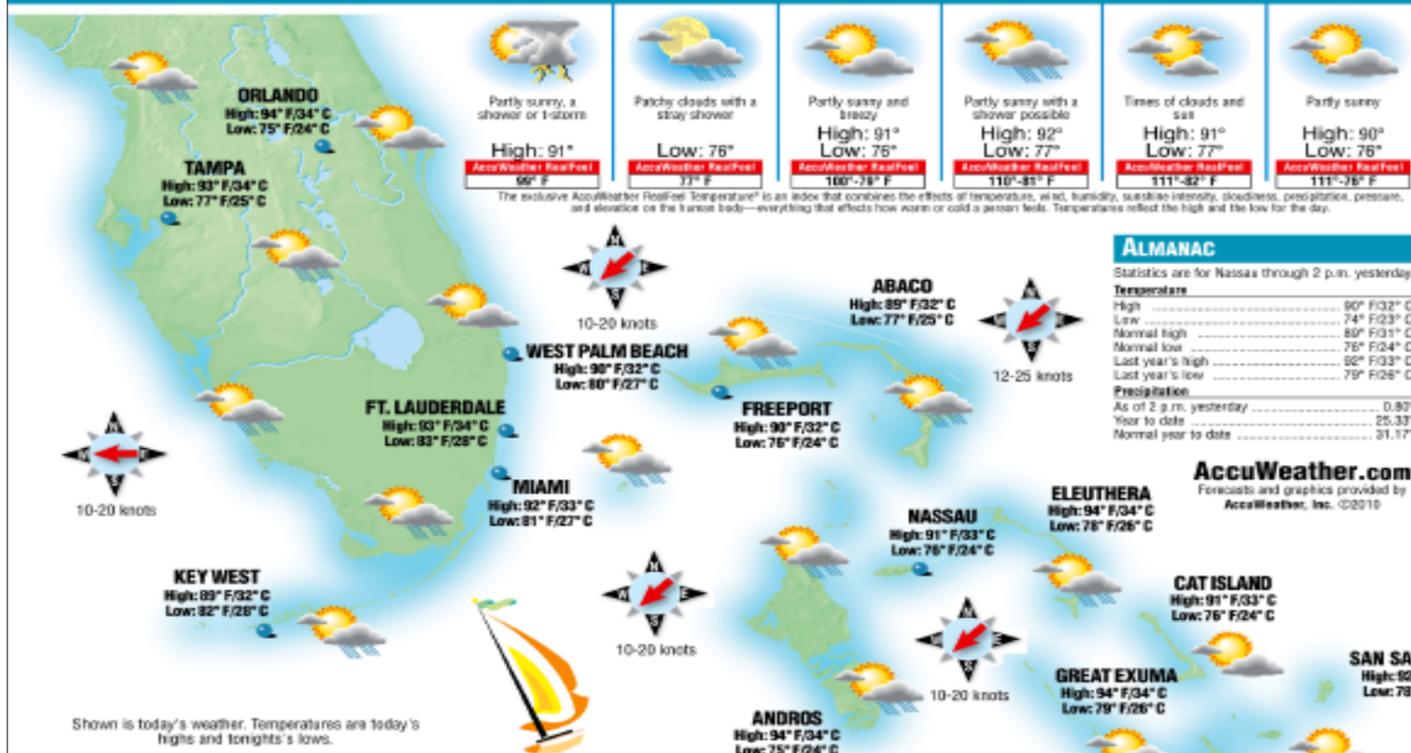
TRENDY MOTHERS: Koch shows moms easy tips and tricks to transform a handful of basics into dozens of maternity looks.

THE WEATHER REPORT



INSURANCE MANAGEMENT (BAHAMAS) LIMITED
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5-DAY FORECAST



UV INDEX TODAY



TIDES FOR NASSAU

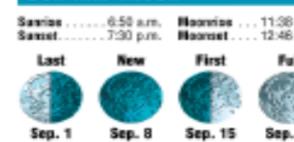
Time	High	Ht. (ft.)	Low	Ht. (ft.)
Today	11:51 a.m.	2.9	5:23 a.m.	0.9
Wednesday	2:01 a.m.	2.5	6:13 a.m.	0.9
Thursday	1:00 a.m.	2.5	7:12 a.m.	0.9
Friday	3:08 a.m.	2.5	8:16 a.m.	0.9
Saturday	3:14 a.m.	2.6	9:26 a.m.	0.7
Sunday	4:18 a.m.	2.8	10:30 a.m.	0.4
Monday	5:17 a.m.	3.1	11:30 a.m.	0.1

ALMANAC

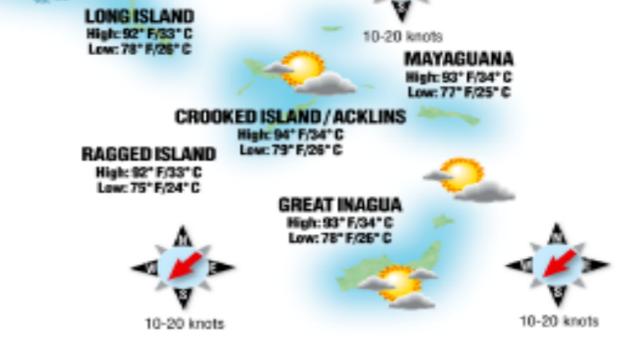
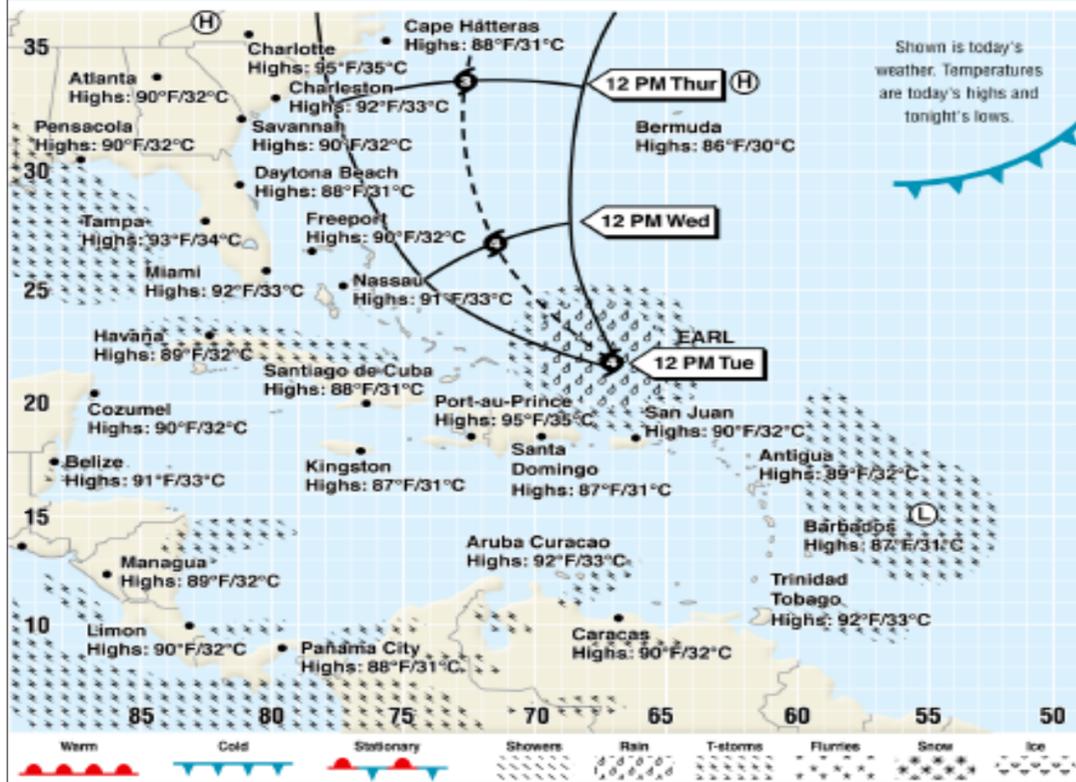
Statistics are for Nassau through 2 p.m. yesterday

Temperature	High	Low	Normal high	Normal low	Last year's high	Last year's low
Today	90° F/32° C	74° F/23° C	86° F/31° C	76° F/24° C	86° F/31° C	79° F/26° C
As of 2 p.m. yesterday	89°	75	86	76	86	75
Year to date	25.33°					
Normal year to date	31.17°					

SUN AND MOON



INSURANCE MANAGEMENT TRACKING MAP



MARINE FORECAST

Location	WINDS	WAVES	VISIBILITY	WATER TEMPS.
ABACO	Today: NE at 12-25 Knots Wednesday: NE at 10-20 Knots	6-10 Feet 10-14 Feet	10 Miles 10 Miles	85° F 85° F
ANDROS	Today: NE at 10-20 Knots Wednesday: NE at 8-16 Knots	3-5 Feet 3-5 Feet	6 Miles 10 Miles	86° F 86° F
CAT ISLAND	Today: ENE at 10-20 Knots Wednesday: ENE at 10-20 Knots	5-9 Feet 10-14 Feet	10 Miles 4 Miles	86° F 86° F
CROOKED ISLAND	Today: NE at 10-20 Knots Wednesday: NW at 7-14 Knots	4-7 Feet 8-12 Feet	6 Miles 6 Miles	86° F 86° F
ELEUTHERA	Today: ENE at 12-25 Knots Wednesday: ENE at 10-20 Knots	5-9 Feet 10-14 Feet	10 Miles 4 Miles	86° F 86° F
FREEPORT	Today: ENE at 10-20 Knots Wednesday: NE at 10-20 Knots	3-5 Feet 3-5 Feet	10 Miles 10 Miles	85° F 85° F
GREAT EXUMA	Today: NE at 10-20 Knots Wednesday: NNE at 7-14 Knots	1-3 Feet 2-4 Feet	10 Miles 10 Miles	86° F 86° F
GREAT INAGUA	Today: NE at 8-16 Knots Wednesday: WSW at 6-12 Knots	4-7 Feet 5-9 Feet	10 Miles 10 Miles	86° F 86° F
LONG ISLAND	Today: ENE at 10-20 Knots Wednesday: WSW at 6-12 Knots	2-4 Feet 2-4 Feet	10 Miles 10 Miles	86° F 86° F
MAYAGUANA	Today: NE at 12-25 Knots Wednesday: W at 10-20 Knots	10-14 Feet 12-16 Feet	6 Miles 6 Miles	86° F 86° F
NASSAU	Today: ENE at 10-20 Knots Wednesday: NE at 8-16 Knots	3-5 Feet 2-4 Feet	10 Miles 6 Miles	86° F 86° F
SAN SALVADOR	Today: NE at 10-20 Knots Wednesday: N at 3-6 Knots	2-4 Feet 2-4 Feet	10 Miles 10 Miles	86° F 86° F
RAGGED ISLAND	Today: NE at 10-20 Knots Wednesday: NNE at 10-20 Knots	3-5 Feet 3-6 Feet	10 Miles 4 Miles	86° F 86° F

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Committed TO A Deception

What would you do if you found out your boyfriend was married?

By **JEFFARAH GIBSON**
Tribune Features Writer

A FEW years ago I watched a seemingly romantic love story on Lifetime. My memory of the movie is a bit blurred, however I do recall the movie being centered around lies, deception, and betrayal.

In the movie a woman falls in love with a man who seemed to be the "perfect" gentleman. He was smoother than the sensual timbre of jazz. He was wealthy, he had charisma, he was sensitive, not to mention attractive and skilled at making the woman believe she was the only one that made his eyes twinkle.

After a few years of dating, the woman found out the man who she fell head over heels for was married. Her heart shattered into a million pieces.

Four women weighed in on this situation and told *Tribune Woman* how this ordeal would affect their lives. Two of the women said in the end a situation like this could only spawn

the most undesirable results.

"I would be so devastated especially if we were in a long term relationship. I would confront his wife for one and let her know everything that has been going on and probably end all relations or connections with him," said Lokia Brown.

Dirty Deed

She said his dirty deed would be exposed to everyone she came into contact with. "I would bad mouth him to the world. Everyone who knows him would know what he did to me, the pastor, the people in the church, the people at the bar, the people around the corner, his family, my family and everyone. He will be exposed," she said.

Ms Brown said although it would hurt her she will do her best to get over him.

"I would rather hurt myself and end the relationship with him as oppose to allowing him to hurt me. It is not like me to break up a home whether it be a happy home or if it is a home that is filled with problems. People are slick and sly and know just how to hide big details of their life," she said.

Marika Rolle is

more concerned about her reputation than her feelings.

"I can't be seen dating a married man and I'll try not to bring his wife into the situation to avoid hurting her. But if I see he's doing for more by saying he wants to be with the both of us, I'll be forced to inform his wife of his stupidity," she said.

"The simple thing to do would be to leave. But it isn't as easy as it sounds. When you actually fall in love with a person its extremely hard to automatically stop thinking about them. I would try to slowly phase him out of my life. I would have to be determined to let him go. And as time passes I will call him less and start dating other men to help with this process."

Compromise

If wealth is involved, it would in some way influence Allea Brown's decision making.

"If he is very wealthy and has a lot of money and I am working at a job that is only paying minimum wage hell- yes I am staying with him. But if I have a good job whereas I can support myself maybe not," Ms Brown explained.

"A situation like this can set someone off. I would feel so dirty and end

up doing something I might regret because I have some serious anger issues. The entire relationship was a waste of time."

Jacklyn Frazer said if a man ever does something like that to her he can pretend he never knew her. "I would cut him off. The sin of fornication is already enough, not to mention with a married man. Also, I'm far too valuable for him just to play around with, if he loves me I would expect a sincere and genuine commitment, that being marriage, if not he could just leave."

For the men and women who engage extramarital affairs, Ms Frazer gave a little advice.

"I don't feel its my place to judge, however personally I think its wrong. But then again you never know the situation surrounding the affair. Some men are so conniving and manipulative, she could be the victim."

I would tell the person continuing the relationship not to get their hopes up for anything more than an affair and to try and figure out their self worth and go from there. I would tell the man to stop being greedy! Be man enough to make a sound and honest commitment to one woman," she said.

"I would rather hurt myself and end the relationship with him as oppose to allowing him to hurt me. It is not like me to break up a home whether it be a happy home or if it is a home that is filled with problems."

- LAKIA BROWN



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Youth Olympics: Athletes return home from Singapore...

See page 11



TOUGH ROAD: Jena Mackey on stage during the IFBB Pro Bodybuilding Weekly Championships in Tampa on July 17, where she finished 16th out of a field of 28 competitors in the Open women's division.

Jena Mackey's road to the top 'really rough'

By BRENT STUBBS
Senior Sports Reporter
bstubbs@tribunemedia.net

She is the first Bahamian female bodybuilder to achieve professional status. But for Jena Mackey, the road to the top has been a very difficult one.

On July 17, Mackey competed at the 2010 IFBB Pro Bodybuilding Weekly Championships in Tampa, Florida, where she finished 16th out of a field of 28 competitors in the Open women's bodybuilding division.

Mackey, who received her pro card in 2007 when she won the Central American and Caribbean Bodybuilding Championships, said it's definitely much different from the amateur ranks.

"It's really rough. You have to continue going back to the drawing board and try to fig-

First Bahamian pro female bodybuilder reflects on her status

ure out what the judges are looking for," Mackey said.

"Most of the girls have been there like five to seven years and so they have the experience. So it's really tough."

In toughness, Mackey said she wasn't just referring to her diet and preparation for an event. She was referring to actually going on stage and competing against the 28 competitors as she did in July.

"You don't know what the judges are looking for and you do this show every year," said Mackey, who competed last year in the show for the first time and ended up 12th overall.

"Most of the times, the judges are familiar with the girls who keep coming back. But for me, having done it for just the second time, the judges were not quite familiar with me."

The former national team soccer player said as she looks ahead to the future, she will definitely have to concentrate on developing more mass.

"I was dense, but my legs still had a problem," she pointed out. "It's getting better every time I do my show. I'm seeing the improvement. But there was always something lacking."

SEE page 10

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Preliminary Banking Certificate



Georgette Albury

Raquel Kelly

Serena Steed

FirstCaribbean congratulates the graduates of the Bahamas Institute of Financial Services.



SPORTS

Welcome home!

THE Bahamas' "newest and youngest" Olympians returned home with renewed interest of improving in their sports after spending the past two weeks at the inaugural Youth Olympics in Singapore.

The athletes, accompanied by the majority of the team officials, were welcomed home on Saturday in the VIP Lounge of the Lynden Pindling International Airport by executives from the Bahamas

Olympic Committee.

They got two medals in track and field from Tynia Gaither and Rashad Brown, two of the eight athletes that competed, along with the two swimmers and one judo competitor.

BOC president Wellington Miller thanked the athletes for representing the Bahamas with "pride, grace, dignity and success" at the history-making event.



HISTORY MAKERS: Members of the first 2010 Youth Olympic team pose above with executives of the Bahamas Olympic Committee on their return home from Singapore at Lynden Pindling International Airport.

Photos by Kermit Taylor

SPORTS IN BRIEF

SOFTBALL MEN'S NATIONAL TEAM PRACTICE

THE Bahamas Softball Federation is scheduled to hold open workout sessions for the men's national softball team, starting 7:30pm Wednesday at the Bankers Field, Baillou Hills Sporting Complex.

The workout sessions will be under the supervision of head coach Godfrey 'Gully' Burnside and coaches Erin Adderley, Martin 'Pork' Burrows and Leroy Thompson.

BASKETBALL SUMMER OF THUNDER

THE Bahamas Basketball Federation is slated to continue its 'Summer of Thunder' College Scrimmages Wednesday night at Kendal Isaacs Gymnasium.

Ohio University, who played their opening game on Monday night against the defending New Providence Basketball Association champions Commonwealth Bank Giants, are set to take on the Bahamas All-Star team at 7:30pm.



BAAA president Mike Sands (far right) shares a moment with Tynia Gaither, the double medallist at the first Youth Olympic Games, as she is interviewed by press members.



JUDO competitor Cynthia Rahming (left) poses above with BOC's secretary general Dianne Miller.



GRAND Bahamian sprinters Rashad Brown and Tynia Gaither (right) with their medals.

NPSA gearing up for All-Star weekend

By BRENT STUBBS
Senior Sports Reporter
bstubbs@tribunemedia.net

THE New Providence Softball Association (NPSA) is gearing up for a festival weekend at the Banker's Field, Baillou Hills Sporting Complex.

It's the All-Star Classic scheduled for Saturday night when the NPSA is expected to showcase the majority of its bright young talent assembled in the league.

Additionally, the NPSA is also scheduled to stage a pre-All-Star game 6:30pm Friday in a match-up of the legends against the executives.

That game, according to president Loretta Maycock, is the NPSA's way of giving the younger athletes an opportunity to see some of the future stars in action.

"The legends team will consist of players like Anthony 'Boozie' Rolle, Anthony 'Boots' Weech, Lionel 'Ironman' Symonette and Fred 'Papa' Smith, who are always at the park," Maycock said.

Maycock is expected to lead the

executive team that features Neressa Seymour, Cyril Smith, Jean 'Bubbles' Minus, Renee 'Sunshine' Davis and Tommy Stubbs.

As for Saturday's All-Star game, Maycock said they decided to focus more attention on the surplus of young players in the league, coupled with some of the veteran players.

"It was very difficult picking the men because a lot of the younger players are not batting as well as the younger females," Maycock said.

"But I expect for all those selected to come out and play in the All-Star game. We expect that it will be a lot of fun."

One of the women's All-Star teams will be named in honour of Jeannie Minus, the fourth vice president of the league. The other will be named after Linda Ford, an accomplished former pitcher in the league.

As for the men, the NPSA will honour the late Tyrone 'Ron, Figure' Wood by naming the teams after him. The other will be named after Rev Dencil Clarke, a former long-time teammate of Wood. The teams are

comprised of the following:

Jeannie Minus Ladies All-Stars Starters

Pitcher - Marvel Miller (Wildcats); catcher - Christine Jenoure (Operators); first base - Vernie Curry (Wildcats); second base - Vonetta Nairn (Sharks); third base - Shavette Taylor (Brackettes) and shortstop - Zella Symonette (Brackettes).

Left field - Lathera Brown (Operators); right field - Krystal Delancy (Brackettes) and center field - Candice Smith (Wildcats).

Substitutes - Trika Munroe (Sharks); Crystal Taylor (Scorpions); Shonette Symonette (Sharks); Lashana Gittens (Scorpions); Dorothy Marshall (Operators); Garnette Curry (Brackettes); Sheria Woodside (Sharks) and Celio Symonette (Sharks).

Manager - Anthony Bullard (Wildcats). Coach - Mario Ford (Operators).

Linda Ford Ladies All-Stars Starters

Pitcher - Desiree Coakley (Operators); catcher - Dornette Edwards

(Wildcats); first base - Michelle Thompson (Operators); second base - Vanrica Roise (Brackettes); third base - Jeanette Hilton (Wildcats) and shortstop - Christine Edmunds (Wildcats).

Substitutes

Dawn Sears (Sharks); Natasha Paul (Scorpions); Thela Johnson (Sharks); Shirley Stubbs (Scorpions); Britteny Clarke (Operators); Katrell Dorsett (Brackettes); Stephanie Goodridge (Wildcats) and Kendra Humes (Operators).

Manager - Stephen 'Bishop' Benez. Coach - Cyril Smith (Brackettes).

Ron Wood Men's All-Stars Starters

Greg Burrows Jr. (Freedom Farm); Van Johnson (Truckers); Jemeko Sands (Freedom Farm); Ramon Storr (Truckers); Clayton Bowles (Outlaws); Philip Farquharson (New Breed); Romero Armbrister (Del Sol); Martin Burrows Jr. (New Breed) and Keiron Munrow (Dorin United).

Substitutes

Roscoe Thompson (Outlaws); Julian Collie (Truckers); Bruce Mackey

(Outlaws); Khalid Curry (Buccaneers); Darren Stevens (Dorin United); Leonard Ferguson (Dorsey Park); Peval Storr (Dorsey Park) and Dwight Butler (Del Sol). Manager - Philip Rolle (Commando Security). Coach - Godfrey Burnside (Freedom Farm).

Dencil Clarke Men's All-Stars Starters

Devaughn Wong (Freedom Farm); Garfield Bethel (New Breed); Darren Bowleg (Dorsey Park); Ken Wood (New Breed); Lamar Watkins (Buccaneers); Stephen Brown (Truckers); Adrian Pinder (Outlaws); Eugene Pratt (New Breed) and Alcott Forbes (Dorin United).

Substitutes

Tori Rolle (Dorsey Park); Lavaughn Ferguson (New Breed); Ray Strachan (Del Sol); Javon Dorsett (Dorsey Park); D'Kyle Rolle (Mighty Mitts); Garret Strachan (Dorsey Park); Demont Charlow (T&C Outlaws) and Rudy Fox (Dorsey Park).

Manager - Erin Adderley (Dorin United). Coach - Martin Burrows Sr - New Breed.

As a pro bodybuilder, Jena Mackey's road to the top 'really rough'

FROM page 12

After working with pro male bodybuilder Joel Stubbs for about 21 and-a-half years when she earned her pro card, Mackey is now back with Stephen Robinson, whom she worked with for seven years as an amateur.

"This is her third year as a professional bodybuilder, competing against some of the top women in the world," Robinson said. "Based on the 23 women she competed against, she came in 16th, which I think was a great feat."

"For the most part, I think it's all about her personal development where she wants to get into that top 10, then the top five and eventually the Ms Olympia. I think every year that she goes and competes, it's all about her improving on her physique."

Having spent the past six months training her, Robinson said he saw the improvement Mackey made, particularly with her legs, which complemented her back and arms that she always prides herself on.

In preparation for next year,



ON FORM: Jena Mackey (far right) competes at the IFBB Pro Bodybuilding Weekly Championships in Tampa, where she finished 16th out of a field of 28 competitors.

Mackey said she hopes to go away to train for at least three weeks prior to her first show. Her goal is to compete in at least two shows and eventually qualify for Ms Olympia.

"For now, I'm still in the gym trying to stay in shape," she said. "I'm not trying to wait until next year to try and get in shape because it will be too hard."

"That's double work to put in when I can just cruise through and I can properly diet and train. I really want to be ready next year. I'm just waiting on the schedule to come out so that I can know when I will be competing."

Robinson said he plans on putting Mackey in an early show in February or March and then come back to compete

again in Tampa in July.

In the meantime, Mackey said the Bahamas Government's subvention has enabled her to stay focused in training. But she's hoping that she can get a little more support because it's costly to maintain her status as a pro.

"Bodybuilding is not a five or six month sport," Robinson stated. "She will have to dedi-

cate herself year round in order to prepare for Ms Olympia or to get into that top 10. It all boils down to money. When you reach the level she and Joel are competing now, you need sponsors behind you for supplements, your meals, travel and everything else that goes into preparing for a world class event."

For the Tampa show alone,

which featured the CAC winner from Trinidad & Tobago in 2008 and the winner from Aruba in 2009, Robinson said Mackey spent about \$2,500 for the weekend.

But on an average, over the last three months to prepare for a show of that calibre, Robinson said Mackey could incur expenses totalling at least \$6,000.

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US survives test, holds on to edge Brazil 70-68

By BRIAN MAHONEY
AP Basketball Writer

ISTANBUL (AP) — The shot bounced off the back rim, then the front, then finally fell out.

With that, the United States walked off the court with a victory, and another warning: A world championship won't come easily for this young team if it comes at all.

The Americans survived their first tough test in Turkey, edging Brazil 70-68 on Monday when Leandro Barbosa's shot rattled out at the buzzer.

"This game right here was an eye opener," U.S. guard Derrick Rose said.

Kevin Durant scored 27 points and Chauncey Billups added 15 for the Americans (3-0), who essentially clinched Group B with the victory. But they have bigger goals than a group championship, trying to end a 16-year U.S. drought in this event.

This U.S. team has to do without Kobe Bryant, LeBron James and all the other players who led the Americans to the gold medal in the 2008 Olympics, and those guys never needed breaks at the buzzer.

"We know that teams are really coming in here to try to win this tournament and we're here to do the same," said Rose, the only other U.S. player in double figures with 11 points.

After the Americans trailed most of the first 2Q quarters, Lamar Odom's dunk with 7:14 left put them ahead 64-62. But they couldn't build on the lead during a tense final few minutes, and Brazil had two chances to send the game to overtime.

Following a miss by Billups, Brazil got the ball and Marcelo Huertas was fouled on a drive to the basket with 3.5 seconds remaining. He missed the first free throw and then the second



CHALKS: USA'S Rudy Gay puts up a shot as Brazil's Alex Garcia defends during the preliminary round of the World Championship Monday.

(AP Photo)

intentionally, tracking it down in the corner and firing it underneath to Barbosa, who lofted a shot over Kevin Love, only to have it bounce off the back and front of the rim.

"I thought it was going to in, but it's OK," Barbosa said. "I think we did a great job, it was a great game. I don't think the USA knew that we could cause problems for them and we did it."

Barbosa finished with 14 points after a strong start for Brazil (2-1). Marcus Vinicius scored 16, and Tiago Splitter had 13 points and 10 rebounds while battling foul trouble in the second half.

With NBA big men Nene, Anderson Varejao and Splitter, Brazil was considered one of the teams with enough size to topple the undersized Americans. Nene had to pull out with an injury and Varejao sat out again while continuing to rest a sprained right ankle, so the Brazilians turned to a speed game to lead for much of the game.

They just couldn't finish the upset, leaving the Americans needing only a victory over Iran or Tunisia, the bottom two teams in Group B, or another Brazil loss to earn the top seed from the group and three full days off before meeting the No.

4 seed from Group A on Sept. 6.

The Americans have plenty to work on before worrying about that, after needing a huge night from Durant and 31 minutes from Billups, the old man of the team at 33 who had their only basket in the final 6:50.

"I knew that in the first half that this was going to be a fourth-quarter game, a last two- or three-minute game, and I was preparing myself to just be ready," Billups said.

Nowhere was the difference between this team and its predecessor more apparent than in the matchup with Barbosa. When the teams last met, in

their 2007 Olympic qualifier, Barbosa entered as the tournament's leading scorer before Bryant led a defensive effort that held him to four points on 1-of-7 shooting in an easy U.S. win.

There's no defenders like Bryant here, and Barbosa took advantage in the first quarter by making two 3-pointers and scoring eight points. Brazil made 12 of its first 16 shots in the period and its first four 3-pointers, streaks that were snapped when Barbosa was just short on a half-court heave at the buzzer, leaving them with a 28-22 lead.

Brazil extended its lead to

eight early in the second quarter and was still up seven midway through the period, but with Splitter on the bench with two fouls, and Barbosa and Alex Garcia joining him, the Americans cut it to one a couple of times.

Splitter's dunk sent the Brazilians to the half with a 46-43 advantage.

The Americans finally grabbed the lead midway through the third, extending it to 61-55 after consecutive baskets by Durant. Barbosa scored the final four points of the period, though, and pulled Brazil within two heading to the fourth.

The crowd grew solidly behind the underdogs, cheering loudly for Brazil baskets and booing loudly when a small "U-S-A!" chant broke out in the fourth.

Brazil is coached by Ruben Magnano, who guided Argentina to victories over the U.S. in the 2002 worlds and 2004 Olympics, when the Argentines won gold. He nearly authored another upset, as players on both teams thought Barbosa's shot was going in.

"I had Durant right in front of me, I couldn't see," Huertas said. "I was in the corner but I saw the ball tipped on both sides of the rim and went out. It was a big disappointment."

U.S. coach Mike Krzyzewski used his reserves liberally in the first two games, but gave much longer runs to the starters Monday after the backups were ineffective during their first stints.

Billups, who played in the 2007 victory over Brazil, thought it was good for his young teammates to have a close game so soon.

"We came out victorious, but for the young guys, just know how thin of a line it is. Possessions, turnovers, things like that that we talk about," he said. "Now they can see it."

Past Open champs Roddick, and Clijsters win on Day 1

By HOWARD FENDRICH
AP Tennis Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Once you reach a certain age, birthdays tend to make you reflect on your own mortality. They also, in the case of a professional athlete such as Andy Roddick, tend to prompt questions about the state of your career.

Roddick turned 28 on Monday, Day 1 of this year's U.S. Open, and after beating Stephane Robert of France 6-3, 6-2, 6-2, the ninth-seeded American was asked what significance he attributes to his age.

In typical Roddick fashion, he injected his reply with some humor.

"Obviously, I know I'm probably closer to the finish than I am to the start," he said. "But ... it's a number. I'm barely older than I was yesterday."

Well, yes, that's true. He also, however, is seven years older than he was when he won his lone Grand Slam title at the 2003 U.S. Open. There's a reminder of that accomplish-

ment every time Roddick returns to Flushing Meadows: His spot in the locker room bears a special plate with his name and the year he was the champion, a bit of recognition he referred to as "the little deal on your locker that says you're special."

Kim Clijsters is "special," too. The Belgian won the U.S. Open each of the last two times she entered, in 2005 and 2009, and she stretched her winning streak in New York to 15 matches Monday despite a brief blip.

The No. 2-seeded Clijsters began her title defense with a 6-0, 7-5 victory over 104th-ranked Greta Arn of Hungary. It was an afternoon of mostly straightforward results, although two-time French Open runner-up Robin Soderling was stretched to five sets before edging 214th-ranked qualifier Andreas Haider-Maurer, who pounded 34 aces.

Other winners included No. 6 Nikolay Davydenko, No. 11 Marin Cilic, No. 13 Jurgen Melzer, No. 17 Gael Monfils and No. 22 Juan Carlos Fer-

rero, while No. 27 Fernando Gonzalez quit in the third set of his match against Ivan Dodig because of a knee injury.

Women moving into the second round included surprise 2009 U.S. Open quarterfinalist Melanie Oudin, French Open champion Francesca Schiavone, French Open runner-up Sam Stosur, two-time major finalist Elena Dementieva, No. 10 Victoria Azarenka, No. 13 Marion Bartoli, No. 16 Shahar Peer, and No. 24 Daniela Hantuchova, who beat former No. 1 Dina Safina 6-3, 6-4.

Venus Williams, a two-time champion in New York, and Roger Federer, who counts five U.S. Opens among his record 16 Grand Slam titles, were scheduled to play in the night session.

After rolling through the first set against Arn, Clijsters trailed 4-0 in the second. Arn eventually served for that set at 5-4. But Clijsters broke serve there, and again in the match's final game.

As for how she found herself in that hole to begin the second set, Clijsters explained: "Wasn't aggressive enough. Didn't step in enough when I had to. I think she started going for a little bit more, playing a little bit more with some risks, and she kind of put me under pressure a little bit, where it should have been the other way around."

At last year's U.S. Open, Clijsters became the first wild-card entrant to win a women's singles title at any Grand Slam tournament. Coming off a 2Q-year break from the game, during which she got married and had a baby, Clijsters was playing in only her third tournament of her comeback, and first major event.

"Other players kind of didn't really know what to expect," Clijsters said.

That isn't going to be the case these days for her, of course. Nor can Oudin catch anyone off guard anymore.

A year ago, Oudin was only 17. She came to New York ranked 70th, and without a U.S. Open win on her resume.

"I've grown up a lot," Oudin said after reeling off the last nine games in a 6-3, 6-0 victory over 143rd-ranked Olga Savchuk. "I mean, I think I'm actually more like a professional instead of just a junior. Even though now that I'm 18, I



ANDY RODDICK of the US signs autographs for fans after he beat Stephane Robert of France during the first round of the US Open tournament in New York on Monday. Roddick won the match 6-3, 6-2, 6-2 on his 28th birthday.

(AP Photo)

feel like I'm a legal adult now. So I guess that's a good thing." Roddick has a decade on her, but the years haven't slowed his serve much: He was topping 130 mph Monday.

It's been an up-and-down year for Roddick, who recently discovered he had a mild case of mononucleosis. He was under doctor's orders to limit his physical activity, but he said

he feels a lot better now than he did a month or so ago.

"It's going the right way," he said. "To be honest, once you decide to play, I think you throw all the excuses and everything else out the window. If I decide to play, then it's up to me to give 100 percent of what I have. So it's not something I really want to discuss too much from this point forward."

As many memories of 2003 that flood Roddick's mind whenever he's on the U.S. Open grounds, he also recalls his run to the 2006 final at Flushing Meadows.

"I was in a rough kind of career transition that summer," he recalled. "You guys were trying to kick me out at 23." Age is just a number, right?

BARRACUDA

Registration for the first session of the
"Learn to Swim" program will take place at
Queen's College pool on
Saturday, September 4th, 2010
from 9:00am to 12:00noon.
ALL swimmers, new or returning. MUST register:

(1) LEARN TO SWIM FOR CHILDREN
(2) LEARN TO SWIM FOR ADULTS



Visit our website for registration forms,
start dates, prices and full
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