

LOCAL NEWS

Broadcasting Corporation board to meet over planned downsizing

By **TANEKA THOMPSON**
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The executive board of the Bahamas Broadcasting Corporation will meet this Thursday with the intention of expediting the planned downsizing of the agency as employees continue to wait in the dark to learn their fate.

National Security Minister Tommy Turnquest said after the board's meeting discussions will be held with the two unions involved to divulge the identities of the persons who will be let

go. Mr Turnquest said some employees will be offered early retirement packages while others will be asked to resign.

"The board is meeting on Thursday, I expect to have a report from the board following (that) meeting. The union has asked that we expedite the matter and we intend to. The (new) structure has essentially been set, outside of the northern service (Grand Bahama office) in terms of what the new organizational chart looks like.

"Following the board meeting, further discussions will be had with the two unions in terms of who's involved. Some persons will be allowed to take early retirement or retire based on their 25 or 30 years of service or (reaching) the age of 55.

"Others, they have a different scenario if they resign as opposed to being made redundant and so some may opt to resign. And then we'll look at the other numbers from there," said Mr Turnquest.

A well-placed source at the corporation, which operates as ZNS, said the staff who will be let go will be offered "tidy" severance and retirement packages. Mr Turnquest is also await-

ing a full report on actions of newsroom staff that resulted in an abbreviated newscast last Thursday but would not say what, if any repercussions the employees in question would face.

"(It was) very disappointing and ZNS management is continuing to provide a total report on it. It's clear that persons didn't fulfil their employment obligations," said Mr Turnquest on the sidelines of a fire safety exhibition.

When asked if he felt the abbreviated newscast was the result of employee frustration over being kept in the dark, Mr Turnquest said: "I'm not aware that that's why they did what they did. I'll be able to respond once I receive a full report. Discussions have been held with some employees, other employees have said certain things, they are still being checked out."

The newscast, anchored by Jerome Sawyer, lasted just a few minutes instead of the usual hour.

ZNS General Manager Edwin Lightbourne said it appeared that a deliberate attempt was made by some staff



DISCUSSIONS:
Tommy Turnquest

to sabotage the evening broadcast.

Meantime employees still do not know which of them will have a job in the coming weeks or be sent home. It has been suggested that around 93 jobs may go, although exactly who will be let go, and when, has not been pinpointed.

A manager yesterday complained that he has not been asked if his section will be able to function efficiently after the cuts and was not asked to recommend names for the downsizing.

The downsizing comes as ZNS moves to transition into a public broadcasting agency.

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IndiGo merger with Cable Bahamas 'may create jobs'

By **NOELLE NICOLLS**
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THERE will be no job loses at IndiGo Networks as a result of the merger with Cable Bahamas according to executives – who say there could in fact be new jobs on the horizon.

Racardo Underwood, chief financial officer at IndiGo, said the move will allow IndiGo to reach more customers and subscribers, which "might lead to a short term increase in jobs."

"We employ about 35 today. They will still be employed to IndiGo. There are no plans in the merger for any reduction in staff," he said.

A deal was recently finalised for Cable Bahamas to acquire 100 per cent shares in the telecom operator Systems Resource Group (SRG), parent of IndiGo Networks. They are waiting for approval from the Utilities Regulatory and Competition Authority (URCA).

Cable Bahamas employees were informed in a statement from management that "if accepted, this will allow us to build a strong, well placed competitor in the Bahamian communications marketplace. One which will be able to compete with a changing BTC and offer a full suite of converged services for Bahamian consumers."

The IndiGo brand will not be subsumed by the Cable Bahamas brand.

"There will still be an IndiGo brand. That will con-

tinue on as is. One of the very assets they are acquiring is the IndiGo brand which is pretty prevalent throughout the Bahamas," said Mr Underwood.

One of the main changes will be IndiGo's access to fresh capital that will enable it to "move into new and innovative products that will really be exciting for Bahamians."

"It is no secret that Cable Bahamas holds either video or data customers in most households. With that relationship it will give us a great reach to be able to offer our one phone home product to all Bahamian households," said Mr Underwood.

Once the approvals are finalised, Mr Underwood said changes might not come immediately. "I don't know if much happens in a few weeks", he said in relation to a timeline, once approval is granted.

He said more information would be forthcoming from the new merged entity after the approvals are granted.



Inspectors expected to investigate the Bimini plane crash today

By **NOELLE NICOLLS**
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INSPECTORS from the Civil Aviation Authority are expected in Bimini today to investigate the plane crash in South Bimini on Sunday.

Accident investigator, Inspector Delvin Major, confirmed none of the six people on the flight was injured in the crash, although the aircraft was completely destroyed in a fire.

The Piper PA-31 was a US registered aircraft "with authority to operate in the Bahamas", said Mr Major.

It was also properly insured, he said, in response to fears that the pilot might have been an unauthorised operator.

"My team is going down tomorrow to see what we can determine from what is left of it.

"Once we are finished we turn it over to the salvage team. Once we have all the evidence we need then the insurance company will have the salvage team take it away to a facility where it is stored for a period of time until the investigation is completed. If we have any further need to go back and look at it, it will be available to us," said Mr Major.

Reports indicate the baggage door flew open after the plane left the runway. The pilot turned the plane around but ended up landing in bushes. Shortly after the five passengers – one Bahamian and four Americans – were ushered off the plane, the aircraft "burst into flames."

The names of the passengers are expected to be released today.

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LOCAL NEWS

In brief

Police seek help after robberies and stabbing

By MEGAN REYNOLDS
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A DAYLIGHT robbery at Sbarro's pizza restaurant in West Bay Street has been reported by police along with the robbery of Budget Meat Mart in Cordeaux Avenue and stabbing in a Faith Avenue nightclub.

Police are seeking assistance from the public to arrest the culprits in all three serious crimes. A lone gunman robbed a Sbarro's employee with a handgun as he left the store with a cash deposit bag at around 2.45pm yesterday.

The robber got away with the bag of money in a 1998 silver Honda, registration number 188647, driven by another man, as police were called.

Masked

Masked gunmen stormed Budget Meat Mart in Cordeaux Avenue just before 7pm Sunday.

Police say two masked men armed with handguns entered the store demanding cash and robbed the store of an undisclosed amount of money before driving off in a black station wagon. And a 30-year-old St Vincent Road man was stabbed in the abdomen by another man at the High Rollers Club, in Faith Avenue South, early yesterday morning.

Police were called at 1.20am on Monday, and the man was taken to hospital where he remains in stable condition. Police are calling on members of the public to come forward with any information that may assist investigations into all matters.

If you have any information regarding these latest crimes call the police emergency number 919, the Central Detective Unit on 502-9991, or call Crime Stoppers anonymously on 328-TIPS (8477).

Woman accused of knife assault

By MEGAN REYNOLDS
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A YELLOW Elder woman accused of assaulting another woman with a knife is facing six charges in Magistrates Court.

Sherree Lorene Burrows, 33, was arraigned before Chief Magistrate Roger Gomez yesterday charged with assault with a deadly instrument, disorderly behaviour, resisting arrest, assaulting a police officer, causing harm and disorderly behaviour in a police station.

Prosecutors allege she assaulted Ann Marie Johnson with a knife on Thursday, August 26, and behaved in a disorderly manner while in Carmichael Road at around 8pm on the same date.

She is further charged with resisting the arrest of W/Cpl 284 Ferguson, assaulting W/Cpl Ferguson, intentionally and unlawfully causing harm of W/Cpl Ferguson, and disorderly behaviour at the Carmichael Road Police Station on the same evening.

Burrows pleaded not guilty to all charges and was granted \$4,000 bail with one surety.

She must report to The Grove Police Station every Saturday before 6pm and not interfere with the complainant, Ms Johnson.

The case was set for trial on February 14, 2011.

'Intense' talks between Rahming and Prison Staffers Association

NOELLE NICOLLS
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THE latest meeting between the Prison Staffers Association and Superintendent of Prisons Dr Elliston Rahming was "intense", according to members present.

Gregory Archer, PSA president, said monthly meetings with the superintendent are becoming "repetitious", and they are concerned that "old business becomes new business and new business becomes old business."

Mr Archer said most of the immediate concerns are "internal issues that can be resolved." They include "a water situation in the prison" and issues with "composting toilettes."

The toilettes were installed in the Maximum Security section earlier this year to replace the slop buckets into which inmates formerly defecated and urinated while in their cells.

The old system was described by one guard as degrading, "both to the prisoners who have to undertake it and the staff who have to supervise it."

The installation of the composting toilettes met with some problems, which persist despite the arrival of representatives from the Canadian company Sun-Mar.

Mr Archer said: "They showed us what to do and the problem is still here.



PRISON CONCERNS: The outside of the prison.

"The composting toilettes are failing. Every meeting we are being guaranteed that help is on the way, and the time-frame is too long waiting on whatever they need to fix it. We have been simply asking for the past seven months to rectify the problem," said Mr Archer.

He questioned the decision to install the composting toilettes in the first place, claiming they were not endorsed by all the plumbers who work at the facility.

Working conditions at the prison have deteriorated thanks to the toilets, according to Mr Archer, who said it is affecting officer morale.

"No one wants to come to a prison inhaling some scent. The problem with them is they are bio-degradable; they were built more for outdoors. The ventilation system for them was installed wrong so at the same time it gives off a horrible odour throughout the prison.

So now we are faced with not only the odour, but the inmates have to deal with bugs and flies being bred in these toilettes, and we all know flies breed diseases," he said.

As for the water situation, Mr Archer said, "Sometimes it cuts off for eight hours." He claims the usual response from management is to blame the Water and Sewerage Corporation. "It has been going on for too long. Persons who live in the area say the water will be low, but not off.

"For the day-to-day running of the institution it causes a hell of a problem. The female officers at Female Prison have their hygiene issues, and so on. I am baffled as to why things take so long in such a small institution," said Mr Archer.

The water problems affect both officers and inmates. Some family members of prisoners recently raised concerns about the prison's efforts to make

potable water more accessible to prisoners.

Prisoners have access to water from a well system as well as access to bottled water from the prison commissary.

Recognising the history of complaints about water, the superintendent had two reverse osmosis machines installed in the recreational yard at maximum security in February of this year. The prison has plans to install two more machines on the compound: one in Medium Security and another in the Women's Prison.

"We have an internal well system, but it is not sufficient to serve the whole prison and they keep saying they are going to fix it. At the same time we have a civilian plumber, but it seems with the workload he cannot get the work done. We have officers who work in the plumbing section but they are led by a civilian, and nothing can be done if it is not approved by him or the superintendent," said Mr Archer.

COURTBRIEF

Man accused of assaulting woman and police officer

By MEGAN REYNOLDS
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A 35-YEAR-OLD man charged with assaulting a woman and a police officer as well as disorderly behaviour and resisting arrest was granted bail yesterday.

Lewis Sweeting, of St Vincent Road, was arraigned before Chief Magistrate Roger Gomez on four charges and pleaded not guilty on all counts.

Prosecutors say he assaulted Aneta Collie in St Vincent Road on Saturday, and then unlawfully assaulted DC 957 Taylor while in the execution of his duty.

Sweeting is further accused of behaving in a disorderly manner at the same time and place, and resisting lawful arrest.

He was granted \$3,000 bail with one surety; he must report to the Carmichael Road Police Station every Saturday before 6pm.

The trial was adjourned to February 15, 2011.

Killer of young woman remains on loose

By ALISON LOWE
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THE killer of a young woman who was shot dead as she lay asleep in her boyfriend's bed remained at large yesterday, as police continued to try to piece together a motive for the attack in the hope of closing in on a suspect.

"We're not at the point yet where we can say we are taking anyone before the court but the public has been co-operating with us and our officers have done a tremendous amount of leg work in that community, trying to trace the associates of these people and their activities leading up to the time of her unfortunate demise.

"I am pleased with what I see happening. We've got some encouraging signs," said Assistant Commissioner Hulan Hanna.

Chrysteria Brown, 20, was killed when she and her boyfriend, Dario Rolle, 21, were shot by an unknown gunman through Rolle's upstairs bedroom window in his Garden Hills III Subdivision home in the early hours of Friday morning. Mr Rolle suffered gunshot wounds to the jaw and arm, but survived the attack.

ACP Hanna said police cannot yet determine how many people were involved in the killing, which took place shortly after 4am, or whether Rolle was the intended target of the attack, as his

sister had initially suggested to the media.

"That would be pure speculation. To say anything otherwise would be walking on thin ice," said ACP Hanna.

The senior officer said police were hoping to "build a profile" of the couple through speaking with family, associates and those who live in the neighbourhood as they seek to find out who may have wanted to harm either of them.

"I don't think we are quite at that point yet," added ACP Hanna. Dozens of readers commented on the news of the killing of Ms Brown and the shooting of Mr Rolle following the publication of the article in Saturday's *Tribune*, in particular reacting to the report from Mr Rolle's sister that she and her brother left their apartment for the hospital without taking Ms Brown with them after the shooting occurred.

Mr Rolle's sister told *The Tribune* that after finding her brother in the hallway of the apartment they shared, covered in blood, she called into her brother's room, where his girlfriend Chrysteria had been sleeping with him when the shooting happened, but heard nothing and did not open the door to check on the girl out of fear for what she might see.

She said that she then decided it would be best to rush her brother to hospital, calling emergency services on the way and telling them to head to the house.

American man caught trying to take cash to US without declaration

By MEGAN REYNOLDS
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AN AMERICAN man caught attempting to take nearly \$30,000 in cash from Nassau to the United States without declaring it to US border control officials faced two charges in Magistrates Court yesterday.

Michael McWilliams, 35, first pleaded not guilty to making a false declaration to an officer of the United States of America and failing to declare and was granted \$5,000 cash bail.

But the American returned to court with a lawyer and pleaded guilty to both charges. McWilliams was found with \$29,878 American cash in the US Customs pre-clearance hall of the Lynden Pindling International Airport in Nassau on Sunday.

But he told US officers he was not carrying more than \$10,000 cash with him to the United States.

McWilliams changed his plea with representation from attorney Monique Gomez, who was also the lawyer for American runaway Colton

Harris-Moore, known as the "Barefoot Bandit", when he was apprehended in July. McWilliams will be sentenced today.

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Google's shrinking China market share

BEIJING — Google is hiring dozens of marketing and technical employees in China to defend a shrinking market share against local rivals after closing its Chinese search engine six months ago this Wednesday in a dispute over censorship.

Mainland users usually can reach Google's Chinese-language site in Hong Kong, a Chinese territory with no Internet filtering.

That has helped Google retain its rank as China's second-most-popular search engine but Hong Kong access is occasionally blocked and some users have defected to local alternatives, mostly to market leader Baidu.com.

Google Inc. has kept a research and development centre and advertising sales offices in China and is promoting its Android operating system for mobile phones.

It launched what it says is a "large-scale recruiting campaign" for at least 40 posts this summer, from national marketing manager to software designer.

"Our engineering teams in Beijing and Shanghai continue to focus on bringing a steady stream of innovation to our services in China," the company said in a written response to questions.

The hiring has stirred local fans' hopes the China search engine might reopen, though Google has given no indication of that.

None of its job advertisements mentions a connection to the China site, Google.cn.

"The signal that Google are on a hiring spree might suggest they are getting a little movement in talks with the government," said Edward Yu, president of Analysys International, a Beijing research firm.

Google did not immediately respond to questions about its contacts with the government and whether it hoped to reopen the Chinese search engine.

Google's January announcement that it no longer wanted to cooperate with Chinese censorship and might leave prompted an outcry by local users. The government, startled and embarrassed by

Google's public defiance, didn't budge and the China search engine closed March 22. Communist leaders promote Web use for education and business but block material deemed subversive or obscene. Google objected to being required to exclude search results for banned sites.

China is the world's most populous Internet market, with more than 420 million people online, but Google has said little about its plans for this country, leaving local users and industry analysts guessing. "I think Google will come back to China," said Qiao Fan, a 27-year-old freelance website designer. He set up the fan site www.gogogoogle.com to promote Google to Chinese users.

"Some Google products you just can't find on other services," Qiao said, citing the company's e-mail and friend-finding features.

Revenues are flowing in from Chinese advertisers that want to reach customers abroad through the company's U.S. site or mainland users of the Hong Kong site.

Google received 24.2 per cent of China's search engine revenues in the second quarter of the year, though that was down from the previous quarter's 30.9 per cent, according to Analysys International. Nearly all that lost business went to Baidu, which raised its market share from 64.2 per cent to 70 per cent.

Google declined to release sales figures. For now, China provides a small share of its revenues — an estimated \$250 million to \$600 million of this year's projected \$28 billion total. But the world's second-largest economy is expected to become more important as incomes rise and more Chinese go online.

Mainland users who still turn to Google are better educated, richer and more attractive to advertisers, so revenue per user is higher than average, said Yu.

Still, the lack of a China-based site puts Google at a disadvantage as it competes with Baidu and rivals such as Sogou.com and Alibaba, a Chinese e-commerce giant that has added a search service.

(This article is by Joe McDonald, AP Business Writer).

Nicki Kelly and dark conspiracy theories

EDITOR, The Tribune.

The Prime Minister's recent remarks and Resolution presented to Parliament at least had the virtue of clarity. For the first time, he gave the public the hard factual terms of the proposed deal with the Chinese and the Izmirians.

It was a strangely bloodless exercise. Instead of a political leader's typical eloquent argument in favour of – or against – the proposition, he was like the moderator of a high-school debate asking the young people to vote on a carefully worded resolution with "on the one hand" evenly balanced by "on the other hand." But in this case, the moderator himself will have to vote, and there was little to indicate what his position will be or how he will play the essential role of leading his own party, or the nation as a whole.

Clearly, he has scant enthusiasm for BahaMar as presently conceived, and he is perfectly within his constitutional rights to express his objections and even, if he so decides, to lead the resolution to defeat – though at considerable political risk to himself. There are negative features to any major project, and he may sincerely believe (wrongly, in my view) that they outweigh the advantages.

If he takes this line in the House debate scheduled for September 23-24, he will have no better script-writer than the Punch's ineffectual columnist Nicki Kelly. I am second to none in admiring her as an investigative journalist, but this expertise does not save her

LETTERS

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from harbouring dark conspiracy theories. Any positive reports on BahaMar, she writes, result solely from the Izmirians' "assiduous cultivation and manipulation of certain members of the media." She could well be referring to myself, who has written favourably about the project and, I admit, has been entertained in the home of Avo Izmirlian, the elder brother of Dikran and uncle of Sarkis. I hope I was not: "manipulated" while drinking lemonade and hearing how their late father, a penniless exile from Armenia, survived and prospered by leading camel-trains across the Sudan desert.

Ms. Kelly dredges up every conceivable objection to BahaMar without ever conceding that we have hard-headed Cabinet members and their Ministerial advisers who are perfectly capable of meeting these objections with toughly-negotiated Heads of Agreement and detailed permits. She never refers to the desperately needed employment opportunities or to the training programme for construction workers long promoted by Stephen Wrinkle and the Bahamas Contractors Association. She drags in the complex and long-running financial negotiations over Izmirlian-controlled properties in London. She raises the red herring that BEC and Water & Sewerage will be unable to fund

the required services; surely the answer is not to deprive these utilities of a huge new customer but rather to improve their own financial capabilities.

Above all, Ms. Kelly worries about the dread prospect of foreign domination by Oriental hordes and loss of sovereignty to a foreign power, just as the famous "yellow peril" alarmed Western nations in the 19th and early 20th centuries. If the project collapses, she writes that "the Chinese government could end up owning a big chunk of Cable Beach." And what would they do with it to get a return on their investment? Maybe set up a giant Kung-Fu academy to take over the entire island? Replace peas n'rice with noodles and otherwise destroy our "Bahamian way of life"?

I suggest that the intense Ms. Kelly raise her aging eyes – possibly as old as my own – from her computer keyboard and look at the real world around her. Does she see the closed shops and half-empty restaurants on our streets? Does she talk to out-of-work home owners defaulting on their mortgages? Does she visit our decaying school buildings? If so, can she herself put forward any investment proposal that comes close to matching BahaMar in reviving our struggling economy?

We know Ms. Kelly's views. It will be interesting to learn exactly what the Prime Minister believes when he stands up to debate his own Resolution.

RICHARD COULSON

Nassau,
September 17, 2010.

The BahaMar project and God's vision

EDITOR, The Tribune.

When Persians Kings ruled over God's people Syrians were allowed to interfere in the rebuilding of God's temple. Let's look back and see when God's servants were not in rulership over Israel as an example look at King Saul's rule versus King David's rule. See the difference. The problem lies in who is in charge of the country, the authorities. When God is not first in the life of a leader, when a leader has no respect nor gives honour to God. When God is their belly (greed). Our leaders are rebellious and treacherous; they are hurtful and harmful to the people of this God-given country with God-fearing people. Destruction comes to our city; our city is being handed over to foreigners, given to strangers. Strangers will then have more of an impact and say in the affairs of our country because those with the mighty dollar rule over us for decades now. We are slaves once again in our own land?

What if the BahaMar project is signed to go ahead? What if 8000 Chinese workers are allowed to come on our soil to

build this great monument to their God (The mighty dollar)?

Then our people will become slaves for a people, a nation that knows not God, has no respect nor regard for God.

If they can get this kind of power, and control over us now then what kind of control and power will they seek later?

Do we now want to become like Chinese people? To keep others in bondage? That's their culture, their way of life? What about their morals?

They will be like locust or bees over honey. Will they further corrupt our way of thinking, our way of living, our standards, and our character and so on? All we can get out of this deal are the crumbs. Is that what you and I want for our people?

When the billions are being made in the future what portion do we get?

When our markets are being taken over by Chinese business leaders what will be left for our children? What will be the future of our business community? Will it be Chinese or Bahamian?

The United States also thought they could work all sorts of deals with the Chinese until now they are largely indebted to them. They own a major portion of the USA. Africa and many other countries are following suit. So what about our little country, are we more powerful than the USA?

If this deal is signed. If this plan is approved and passed into law. In the years to come we will never be able to call this place our own anymore.

Look at Atlantis for example. A foreigner ruling over us. What a masterpiece.

Is our God in charge of us? Is this what He wants for us? Or is this what we really want for ourselves? Then so be it, but

remember your days will be numbered for whatever stake you claim as yours in this land. God is left out of the decision making in this deal, watch out. And for those religious ministers who agree with this project, shame on you for having no true godly vision for your people. God does not approve this project; I repeat God does not approve this project.

Go right ahead you leaders of the people and make your final decisions whilst the power is in your hands to do so, it's your decision no matter what others think anyway.

So now that you are broke, and our people are out of work, you think this is a God-sent miracle? How subtle is the enemy, how privately and secretly does he sneak into our affairs. Once you give the enemy such a stronghold it will become very hard to take it back.

You will work for foreigners.

You will work for an ungodly nation/kingdom.

You will adopt their ways and culture.

Your children will suffer in the end.

Shame on you leaders of this Bahamaland. "One day in the future you will regret this decision that you have made said the Lord."

It's in your hands, Mr Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham, and your government officials, it's in your hands and if by any chance you choose a godly vision for this nation just ask me for the Lord has given one to me which is far more profitable to us and to our children and our future.

May God reward you based on your decision in this matter.

RODNEY ADDERLEY

Founder: Bridge
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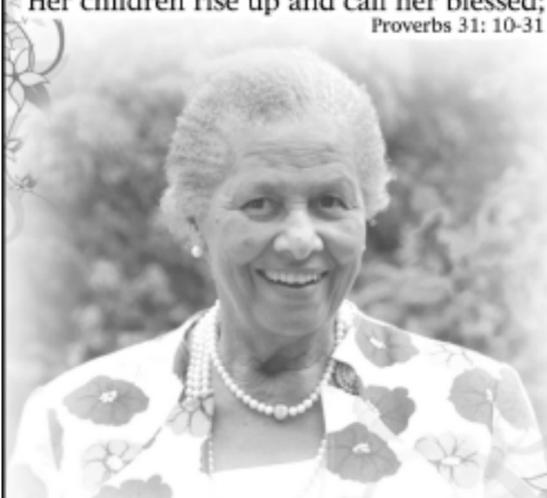
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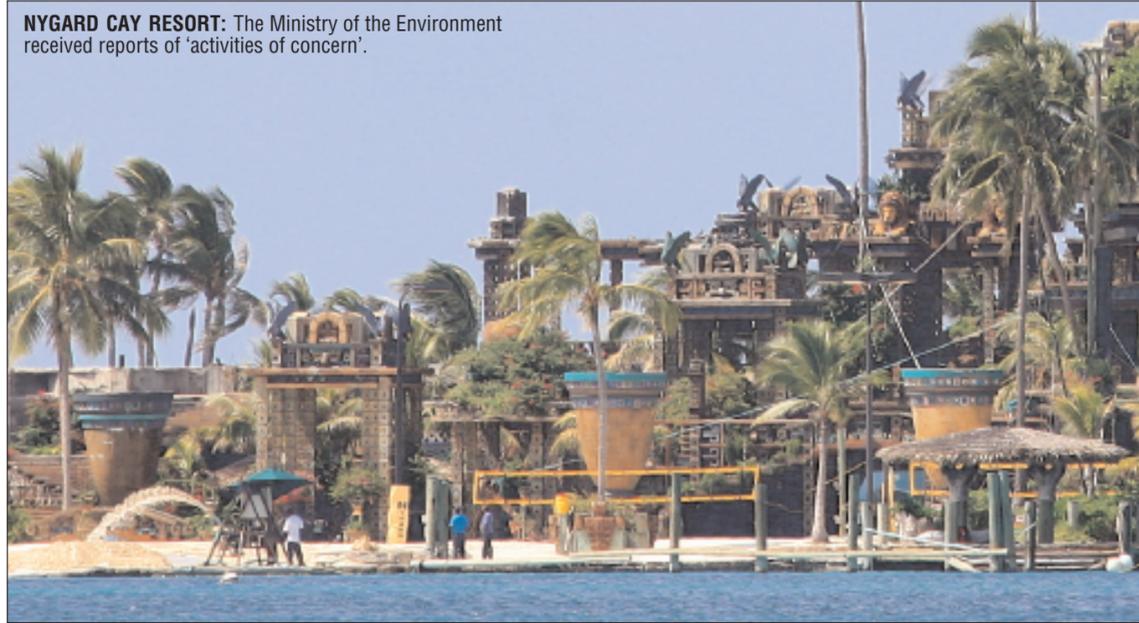
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LOCAL NEWS

NYGARD CAY RESORT: The Ministry of the Environment received reports of 'activities of concern'.



Reports of 'activities of concern' at Nygard Cay

By NOELLE NICOLLS
Tribune Staff Reporter
nnicolls@tribunemedia.net

THE Ministry of the Environment received reports last week detailing "activities of concern" at Nygard Cay Resort.

Boaters claim they saw a front end loader move around "a huge heap of sand" on the Clifton Bay side of the property. Some of the sand was also being moved to other parts of the island, claimed the source.

"It appeared some sand was being deposited on the middle of the beach and a backhoe roller was "smoothing out the beach." At the same time they saw what appeared to be dredging activity.

"What has happened before is they pump sand and create stock piles; they damper and smooth it down. It looked similar to what has happened in the past," claimed a boater.

Eric Gibson, property manager at Nygard Cay, said the sand dredging work being done is "approved."

He said recent reports were "false alarms" intended to "build a fabricated record of unauthorized work being done."

"The fact is that I have been executing the legally issued permit to dredge the sand from our marina and placing it on above high water mark as originally directed. That direction was subsequently rescinded by letter of May 16/10, which instructed us to put the sand 'in the water and in such a way as not to pollute the neighbours' water,'" said Mr Gibson.

In order to comply with these directives, Mr Gibson said he hired a front end loader. He said the Department of Physical Planning conducted an inspection on September 16, at which time they were "provided with the legal dredging permit and they found that we were in total compliance."

Michael Major, director of the Department of Town Planning, said an inspection was conducted on September 16, however the inspector was not provided with the most recent permit.

Asked if Nygard Cay was "in total

compliance," Mr Major said: "We have information that that is not the case. I got a brief report from my officer who was supplied with a copy of the permit they would have obtained from the Department of Lands and Surveys in March of this year.

"I found that permit was revoked and the revised permit issued. We would have to make another site visit to see exactly what is being done in relation to the second permit."

One of the conditions that was stipulated when the original maintenance dredging approval was rescinded was that "the removed sand, which blocked the entrance to your client's boat slip, is to be returned to the seabed in front of the man-made beach and it is not to be used to refurbish the said beach," according to a May 6 letter from the Department of Lands and Surveys addressed to Mr Nygard's attorney, Valentine Grimes.

When contacted, Richard Hardy, director of the Department of Lands and Surveys, said he had no comment at this time.

Success Training College to close until January 2011

SUCCESS Training College on Bernard Road will be closing its doors until January 2011, management at the tertiary institution confirmed to *The Tribune* last night.

According to an official statement from the college, the decision to abandon this current term was due to the "extremely low numbers of students registered."

The statement read: "Day and evening classes at the Bernard Road campus did not begin as expected on Monday. At this time, it is anticipated that classes will resume in January 2011."

Management at the college encouraged interested persons to register early for the January semester and take advantage of special rates they will be offering.

"It should be noted that the temporary closure of the Bernard Road campus will in no way affect the operations of the Freeport, Abaco, Eleuthera or other satellite campuses which are reported to have reasonably high enrolment figures.

"Additionally, we would like to point out that unless there is a marked improvement in registration in respect of the Saturday Professional Development Programme, it is unlikely that these classes will commence on 4 October, 2010 as previously scheduled," the statement read.

The college said that in an effort to minimise the impact on the students who did enrol, the Business Office will remain open as long as is practicable to assist students wishing to obtain transcripts and those who may have other questions and concerns

TROPICAL EXTERMINATORS FOR PEST PROBLEMS PHONE: 322-2157

that need to be addressed.

"Students who have previously registered are invited to present their receipts to the Business Office and apply for tuition re-imburement.

"Management apologises for this unfortunate situation and wishes to assure the public that every effort was made to keep the college's doors open for this Fall Semester but it was no longer economically feasible to do so," the college said.

Earlier this month, Success Training College came under the spotlight after claims surfaced that almost all the members of its Board of Directors had resigned.

Individuals close to the situation alleged the resignations took place after staff members admitted to having not received salary payments since January of this year.

However, CEO and one of two shareholders at the college, former MP Whitney Bastian, has denied the allegations.

"No one's indicated to me that they do not intend to continue," he said.

Mr Bastian had earlier admitted to non and late payment of employees, blaming the situation on lower than usual student enrolment numbers.

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CITY TOUR: Guests were provided an opportunity to get a first-hand look at the murals and installations through a guided evening bus tour.

Love My Bahamas art experience is officially unveiled to public

THEY appeared over the summer with steady pace, 15 murals and sculptures that have transformed historic sites in downtown Nassau into photo-worthy, stop-and-gaze destinations of their own. Now, the collection of art known as "Love My Bahamas" is officially open following a reception and bus tour for dignitaries and artists. Deputy Governor-General Frank Watson

and Minister of Culture Charles Maynard were both present for the event with international and local executives from "Love My Bahamas" co-sponsor Coca-Cola, and other sponsors, including the Ministry of Tourism, Downtown Nassau Partnership and the National Art Gallery of The Bahamas.

Fifteen artists, including two from Grand Bahama

and two from the United States, took months to create the murals that depict Bahamian themes and scenes. Artists include Antonius Roberts, John Beadle, Chantal Bethel, Lillian Blades, John Cox, Claudette Dean, Tyrone Ferguson, Maya Hayuk, Jace McKinney, Toby Lunn, Kishan Munroe, Jolyon Smith, Allan Wallace, Arjuna Watson and Daniel Weise.



ARTISTS OF THE PROJECT: Pictured front row, l-r, Roberto Mercade, general manager of Coca-Cola, Venezuela and Caribbean Franchise Unit; Allan Wallace; Claudette Dean; Deputy Governor-General Frank Watson; Chantal Bethel and Kishan Munroe. Back row: l-r, Antonius Roberts, AJ Watson, Jace McKinney and Toby Lunn. Missing are Lillian Blades, Maya Hayuk, Jolyon Smith, John Cox, Daniel Weise, Tyrone Ferguson and John Beadle.

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Animal rights groups frustrated with govt

By LOCAL ANIMAL RIGHTS ACTIVISTS

YOUR SAY

FOR almost a year now, the members of ARK (Animals Require Kindness), AFAR (Advocates for Animal Rights) and BAARK (Bahamas Alliance for Animal Rights and Kindness) have been trying to work together with the government to implement some simple, humane changes at the Canine Control Unit located within the Botanical Gardens in Chippingham.

The main goal of the groups is to see the implementation of a humane method of euthanasia. Unfortunately no progress is being made.

For several months now, the members of ARK, AFAR and BAARK have been denied access to the Canine Control Unit property with the ministry claiming risk with liability.

Members of these groups had previously, yet grudgingly, been given permission to visit the CCU after complaints had been made to the local newspapers about the inhumane conditions in which the dogs were being held there.

"On the few occasions that we were allowed access, we were dismayed to witness poor treatment of animals and inhumane situations at the CCU," said a statement from the group.

"Since the end of 2009, we have had several meetings with the minister of agriculture, the director, and the senior veterinary officer in charge of the CCU and offered our assistance to bring the CCU up to humane standards, especially in terms of the euthanising

of the animals, which at present is being undertaken by means of Intracardiac Injections (injections into one of the four chambers of the heart) without sedation. This practice has been banned in the United States, except under very rare occasions and then only if the animal is heavily sedated. The pain is excruciating.

SIMPLE REQUESTS THE GROUPS HAVE MADE

"A letter from the ministry allowing access to the CCU at any time to ensure that proper humane treatment of the animals is being enforced. We have also said we will sign a waiver releasing them of any liability. After many repeated requests, no letter has been forthcoming," the statement read.

BAARK has purchased sedation poles that can humanely deliver a sedative. The Euthatol (lethal) injection can then be administered intravenously to the sedated animal.

This method will result in zero suffering for the animal.

The groups have already lined up a local private veterinarian willing to train the staff at the CCU in the use of the sedation pole and are simply waiting for permission from the ministry to move forward. The use of the sedation pole will make work easier for the staff as well.

"Needless to say we are

very, very frustrated, as we know that every day that goes by animals are being subjected to a horrible, painful death. They have suffered enough in their short lives to be spared having to go through this final horror. It is disheartening that a few simple tasks cannot be completed by the Ministry of Agriculture in order to get our solutions put into action.

"In previous years, ARK had worked closely with the CCU. ARK sent the staff away for proper training in euthanasia, as well as training on how to run a shelter properly.

"Money was spent on vehicles, staff uniforms, upgrading the kennels, etcetera. The facility has now reverted to the condition it was prior to us going in there.

"However, we are prepared to work with the CCU again, both in terms of hands-on help and monetary assistance, but we must be assured that our efforts will not be in vain.

"We want to see the Canine Control Unit run efficiently and effectively, as such facilities are in first world countries – not as it is being run now, like a third world organisation."

IMAGES from *The Tribune's* tour of the Canine Control Unit in 2009.



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LOCAL NEWS

Ministry of Education names Employee of the Year 2010/11

ELOISE Thompson was named the Ministry of Education's Employee of the Year 2010/11 at the recent 11th Annual Public Service Week Ceremony.

Mrs Thompson, who has been a public servant for 35 years, said that she was elated to be given this special recognition, even though she was not looking for a reward.

She said that "excellence" is her watch word, and that she gives her best effort every day simply because she loves her job.

Beginning her career in the public service in 1975, she has worked at the Ministry of Education in the areas of Personnel Department, Tertiary Education Section and Human Resources Department, where she currently holds the post of chief executive officer.

Mrs Thompson said she tries to be a positive role model by setting good examples.

Offering advice for other public service officers, the veteran public servant said they should strive to give outstanding service, be punctual, dress appropriately, adhere to standards of proper conduct, and endeavor to be efficient and effective.

She encouraged public servants to try to gain wide and varied experiences, and to not feel fearful of working in various areas of the public service.



EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR: Eloise Thompson is pictured with family members.

"This gives an individual an opportunity to become more knowledgeable, which would make him/her more marketable," she said.

Looking towards the future, Mrs Thompson said that whenever she retires she intends to continue to serve

through her church activities and her personal initiatives and projects, which she then will have more time to pursue. Her concluding words for the public were, "Include everyone in all that you do, and give your service as if unto the Lord."

REAL ESTATE: The right seasoning

By MIKE LIGHTBOURN

THERE are three basic ingredients in the recipe for selling a home: location, condition, and price.

Sellers have the most control over that final ingredient, price. If a home isn't selling after a couple of months, that element will likely need some adjustment.

Generally, if your home isn't selling in the average amount of time that others on the market are, overpricing is the probable culprit. Deciding how much to adjust your asking price will depend on a reevaluation of the local market.

Even if you're confident that you priced fairly and correctly from the beginning, you may find yourself overpriced if local conditions have declined or have not seen any recent improvement.

Now may be the time to consult with your BREA agent and ask for a new comparative market analysis.

This will factor in the current asking and selling prices, and prices for homes whose listings have expired. Forget about comparing asking prices because the market has not yet shown if those will sell or not.

Prices at which homes did sell are a good figure to heed, but you'll learn the most from the prices at which homes did not sell, or expired.

After your agent's explanation of the current conditions, make sure your new price reduction is in line with final sales prices and below the expired listing prices.

Tip of the Week – When pricing a home, the biggest mistake a seller can make is using asking prices to value their own home. Too often, an asking price is just that – an asking price.

(Mike Lightbourn is president of Coldwell Banker Lightbourn Realty)

Questions or comments? Email me at ask@ColdwellBankerBahamas.com.



60TH ANNIVERSARY OF PATHFINDERS

TIM CLARKE/TRIBUNE STAFF



ANNIVERSARY MARCH: Scenes from the streets of Nassau on Sunday as the Bahamas Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists marked the 60th anniversary of Pathfinders worldwide with a march.



Share your news

The Tribune wants to hear from people who are making news in their neighbourhoods. Perhaps you are raising funds for a good cause, campaigning for improvements in the area or have won an award. If so, call us on 322-1986 and share your story.



Vacancy

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Requirements:

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- 3 - 5 years experience in a managerial role
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Responsibilities:

- Contribute to the department's growth and profitability through effective management practices
- Create KPI reports, document issues and track trends
- Coordinate effective promotional campaigns and the implementation of business development plans
- Monitor and control the daily operations of the department
- Liaise with other departments in order to support daily department operations, meet customer service requirements and resolve issues or concerns
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All applications must be submitted on or before **September 30, 2010.**

LOCAL NEWS

Former BUT president

FROM page one

ident Frances Friend.

This means that the next president of the BUT will represent the majority vote of the entire union.

Given the controversy that has surrounded Ms Wilson and her executive team this year over the handling of funds, and the vote of no confidence that evicted her and her entire executive from the leadership of the BUT, some have interpreted this move as an indication that Ms Wilson does not expect to do well at the polls today and is already seeking redress by the courts.

Ms Wilson, who during her campaign has maintained her determination to be re-elected as president, confirmed she had written a letter to the Director of Labour, however she said it contained only concerns that proper election conditions were adhered to.

Yesterday, Ms Friend and her executive slate closed their campaign circuit yesterday at Mable C Walker Primary School, from where it was initially launched.

The school was named after the late founder of the BUT, and Ms Friend maintained her team aimed to restore the integrity and professionalism that Mrs Mable Walker worked so hard to establish for teachers.

Today's election will serve to replace the executive team that was ousted at the union's 63rd annual meeting in June. It was predicted to be a "hot one" by many teachers due to the large number of executive candidates seeking re-election.

At June's meeting, more than 200 delegates supported a vote of no confidence for the entire executive team – only six people opposed the vote, considered by many to be an historic and embarrassing event for the union.

Members at the meeting, including members of the ousted executive team, said they were fed up with the "bickering and infighting" within the executive team, which they felt prevented the union from effectively serving its members.

In addition to the top spot, 13 of the 15 ousted executive members will be seeking re-election.

Major issues campaigned concern the pending negotiations for a collective bargaining agreement and the possibility of a group insurance plan for members. Additional key issues involve membership benefits, governance, professional development, and communication.

There are five polling stations in New Providence, All Saint's Parish Hall, East Street South; Workers House, Tonique Williams Darling Highway; Holy Cross Parish Hall, Highbury Park, Soldier Road; and the Bahamas Communications and Public Officers Union Hall, Farrington Road.

Polling stations also will be located at administrators' offices in the numerous settlements on Family Islands, including Abaco, Acklins, Andros, Bimini, Berry Island, Cat Island, Crooked Island, Eleuthera, Exuma, Inagua, Long Island, Mayaguana, Ragged Island and San Salvador.

Polls open at 8 am.

Driver unharmed after car hits wall

THE driver of a car wrecked on West Bay Street walked away without injury after slamming into a wall at the Guanahani Village Blue Water Resort.

Witnesses say the man lost control of the Chevrolet Tahoe he was driving as he approached the roundabout and crashed into the wall and cement barrier posts in front of the resort.

They said he was saved by an airbag deployed on impact.

Drivers behind him stopped to help and tried to convince the man to remain in the car, but he got out of his own accord, apparently uninjured.

He then went to the back of his car and started taking tools and other belongings out of the trunk as police arrived.

The car was completely wrecked as it hit the wall and the engine was pushed back towards the driver's seat.

"I'm surprised he is alive," said Malcolm Davis who took photographs of the crash for *The Tribune*.

"If it wasn't for the poles in the ground

he would have been in Blue Water Resort in somebody's condo," Mr Davis said.

"He should be a pastor or an evangelist; he is blessed."

The driver was reportedly taken home by two passers-by in a rental car.



PHOTOS/MALCOLM DAVIS

Accused Bishop to call 25 witnesses in his defence

FROM page one

charge in 2007, but the Court of Appeal ordered a retrial.

The alleged victim in the case, who is now 20, testified that she and Fraser had sex around 12 times a month at his home and office at Pilgrim Baptist Temple in St James Road, Carmichael.

And attorney Wayne Munroe made a "no case submission" on August 16 arguing the charge was duplicitous as he said each sexual encounter was a distinct offence and therefore each instance should be brought on a second count.

However, Magistrate Bethel ruled the charge was not duplicitous on September 2 and gave

Fraser's attorneys more than two weeks to decide how to argue their case.

Fraser, who is on \$10,000 bail, was given the option of leading his own defence, making an honest sworn statement, or saying nothing at all.

Lawyer Jairam Mangra, an associate at Munroe and Associates, told the court Fraser would enter a sworn statement and call at least 25 witnesses.

However, he was unable to agree a date for trial to begin when he appeared before Magistrate Bethel yesterday as he said Mr Munroe was scheduled to appear before Justice Stephen Isaacs and before the Chief Justice in two separate matters expected to take up the entire month of November.

ber.

The Magistrate adjourned for one hour so Mr Munroe could appear in person, and when he failed to appear, she ordered for all interested parties to return to her court at 9.45am today to agree a trial date.

Magistrate Bethel said: "Mr Munroe has a big civil practice, a big criminal practice, he's dealing with the Supreme Court and the Magistrate's Court, and he has to give both courts his time.

"The reason I want him to be here is because we'll be able to look at his diary and may be a little bit more flexible so we can set a date and he can tell me definitively how many witnesses will be here."

The lead prosecutor in the case



ACCUSED: Bishop Randy Fraser

is Franklyn Williams, Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions at the Attorney General's office.

FROM page one

Straw Market profits 'at risk'

heavily-draped in knock-off designer handbags of all shapes, colours and sizes. The offering of such items for sale has ballooned in the market over the

last five years, despite pledges from the Royal Bahamas Police Force – which has been pressured by the US Government to

crackdown on the trade – that it is committed to discouraging the sale of such goods in The Bahamas. Reverend Esther Thompson, President of the Straw Business Persons Society and a veteran vendor, said many vendors go to the US, specifically New York, to purchase counterfeit fashion bags, which are sold on the black-market there.

However, she said she thinks that since the news of the arrests, that will now change and unless someone can provide a means for Bahamian vendors to get the bags without risking getting caught by US authorities "things are going to get rough" for ven-

dors and their families.

"I would feel sorry for the Bahamas if we have to stop selling these bags. It will affect the vendors and it will affect The Bahamas. These bags are generating a lot of funds. The whole economy will feel it. The tourists come and they have to go to the ATM to purchase these bags. I guarantee you they wouldn't go to the ATM to buy a straw bag.

"If you look at the straw bags, you would be surprised to know how long they were hanging there. The knock off move quickly. So if you are looking to put food on the table that's what you do."

Harriet Roberts, a third generation straw vendor, said: "The women who were arrested are my colleagues. It's the first time

I've heard of anyone being arrested for it. People have been going back and forth, but never had that problem. It's going to make people more careful about what they sell in the market. That's where we get most of our money, but I guess if they crack down on it that's going to have to stop."

Knock-off fashion bags sell for an average of \$60 or \$70 a piece, according to vendors, and some can sell several on a "good day" at the market.

"(Sales of counterfeit goods at the market) got bigger and bigger and its a fast turnover because people come here and ask for it and they know what they're looking for," said Mrs Roberts, who said that The Bahamas has developed a repu-

tation for itself among tourists as a place to buy counterfeit goods.

While some may say that it is un-Bahamian to hawk goods at the market that are not derived from or representative of this country in any form, Mrs Thompson said people need to be more realistic.

"Straw vendors are not caught up in what the Bahamas is caught up in. This truly Bahamian thing. Straw vendors are only trying to put food on their table like any other person. You do what you've got to do to survive in business. We get where we are from trying things, seeing if the tourist is going to be interested in," she told *The Tribune*.

Meanwhile, other vendors said that even if they wanted to focus on selling straw goods, there are issues other than demand on the part of visitors that impact their sales.

Tina, who has worked in the market for over 20 years and sells only straw goods because she cannot afford to buy the designer bags to offer at her stall, said that if vendors are to be expected to stop selling so many counterfeit products the Government needs to address the alleged position of a number of cruise lines that do not allow straw items from The Bahamas on their vessels.

"The Government needs to look into that, because what sense is there in me selling straw if they're telling them not to buy it?" she asked.

However, Tourism Minister Vincent Vanderpool Wallace said he was not aware of any official warning given by cruise lines to their passengers telling them that straw products purchased from Bahamian vendors would not be allowed back on the ship with them. But he did say that he has heard this "rumour" on a number of occasions and the Ministry of Tourism would bring it up at an upcoming conference.

"We have a whole series of meetings set up with the Caribbean Cruise Association over the next few weeks so that would be an appropriate time to bring it up...if it is a problem," he said.

Mr Vanderpool Wallace said he would be attending a meeting this afternoon on the subject of the Straw Market, which would also discuss the arrest of the vendors in New York, along with issues related to the variety of products in the market and "ways to grow their income" given the profitability of "knock off" goods being a key component of vendors' decision to sell these instead of authentic Bahamian handicrafts.

"The meeting was set up before this incident happened, but it's quite timely that we can talk about all of the issues this afternoon," said the Minister.

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A celebration of the life for

Garnet Anthony "Tony" Moree, 65

October 10, 1944 - September 13, 2010



of Montrose Avenue, Sears Hill and formerly of Grays, Long Island, will be held on Saturday, September 25th, 2010 at 12:00 noon at the Chapel of Love, Kemp's Funeral Home, Palmdale Avenue.

Tony was predeceased by his parents Bruce Wellington Moree and Catherine Maria Wells-Moree, sisters Winnie Knowles & Ivy Darville and brothers Bruce and Kendall Moree.

Left to cherish his memories are his beloved Wife Mary, Daughter: Christina Messarra, Son-in-law: Gary Van Hagen, Grandsons: McKenzie, Quin, Lommen Van Hagen and Granddaughter: Oceana Van Hagen, Sister-in-law: Sheila Moree, Aunt: Thelma Moree, Nieces: Barbara Cartwright, Elaine Knowles, Joanne Cartwright, Maria Vega, Michelle LePrevost, Fiona & Kristine Moree, Nephews: Bradley, Anthony, Brent & Phillip Knowles, David, Michael & Peter Darville, Andrew & Ian Moree, Steven Johnson, Nieces-in-law: Samantha Moree, Hilary Darville, Naomi Darville and Renee Moree, Nephew-in-law Felipe Vega, Cousins Ida Roberts, Viola Floyd, Sylvia Andrews, Valerie Stevenson, Joyce Knowles, Vernon, Douglas & Duane Wells. Also a host of other relatives and friends including Themelis & Irene Cathopoulos & Family, the entire Mailis Family, Quentín & Maria Chisnall & Family, John & Cally Jenkins & family, Katina & Jan Mezulanik, long time friend Malcolm & Adrienne Spicer & family, Louise Maury, The Kings Dart team, Eric "Train" Knowles, Christian Knowles, Victor Cartwright, Harry Brown, Monty Grant, Craig Peterson, Brian Turnquest and Malachi Mortimer, Garon Leadon, the Executive & Members of the Nassau Darts Association, the Abaco Darts Association, the Grand Bahama Darts Association, the Bahamas Darts Federation, the Caribbean Darts Organization, the World Darts Federation, and the Executive & members of the Palmdale Golf Club.

Special thanks to Mr. Robert d'Albenas & the Management & staff of the d'Albenas Agency, the staff of Providence Rehabilitation Centre, Dr. Todd Pinder, Dr. Duvaughn Curling, Dr. Theodore Turnquest, Gia, Katherine and Lakeisha, Dr. Cleland Gooding, Dr. Charles Rahming, the staff at the IMCU and 4th floor of Doctors Hospital, his housekeepers Rochelle McKinney & Blossom.

May his soul rest in peace & May his Memory be Eternal

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Ranfurly Homes in memory of Tony Moree.



The Bahamas Institute Of Chartered Accountants

"Upholding Integrity, Striving for Excellence"

NOTICE

The Bahamas Institute of Chartered Accountants (BICA) wishes to remind its members and the public that The Public Accountants Regulations (Rules of Professional Conduct) governs the public accounting profession in The Commonwealth of The Bahamas. Persons licensed by BICA to practice public accounting must do so in full compliance with Rules 19 and 21 of the Rules of Professional Conduct which addresses the naming of their practice and states:

Rule 19: No person shall engage in public practice under a name or style which is misleading as to the nature of the Practice. The practice of Public Accounting should be carried on under the descriptive style of "Public Accountant(s) or Chartered Accountant(s)" in the case of those persons who are members of the Institute.

Rule 21: "An individual engaged in public practice as a sole proprietor must practice under his own name unless permitted by the Council to practice under the name of a predecessor sole proprietor". The addition of "& Co." is not permitted without the prior consent of the Council.

All licensed accountants are required to ensure that the display or advertisement of their practice complies with the above rules. Members/Licencees will be allowed until December 31st, 2010 to correct any rule violations with respect to Rules 19 and 21, following which appropriate disciplinary action will be taken.

LOCAL NEWS

Haitian worker 'beaten'

FROM page one

Bogue, when the officers asked him if he was legally entitled to work in the country. Mr François said he could not produce paperwork because he has to pay off an outstanding bill of \$2,000 at the department's headquarters in Nassau before he receives the document.

He said one of the officers then beat him about the body and took him into custody before releasing him that afternoon.

"He just slap me, knock me in my stomach," said Mr François, in heavily accented English.

He claimed he was kept for a few hours before he was able to explain the situation to a supervisor and then he was let go.

According to sources, Mr François' employer was contacted to verify his status to work in the

country before he was let go.

An Upper Bogue resident, who did not want to be named, said Mr François has worked in the area for 10 years and has never got into any problems of which he is aware.

"They wanted to find out if he was straight with his papers, his papers are ready but he had not paid for them, he is trying to save for them. But since they are all ready they let him go," said the resident.

When contacted about the claims yesterday, a supervisor at the North Eleuthera Immigration Office declined to comment and referred this newspaper to Director of Immigration Jack Thompson.

Mr Thompson is out of office on vacation, however, Mr Clarke said the claims would be investigated.

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SECTION B • business@tribunemedia.net

Exclusion fears over medical insurance coverage

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

MEDICAL Insurers could soon begin issuing increasing permanent exclusions to individuals with pre-existing and contracted ailments, even as medical costs continue to “skyrocket”, the president of the Bahamas Insurance Brokers Association (BIBA) has warned.

This was because the new Insurance Act has made underwriting requirements for health and life insurance companies much more stringent.

Vaughn Culmer, speaking at the Rotary Club of West Nassau’s weekly meeting, said those in the market for life and health insurance will have to ensure they are “practicing healthy lifestyles” in order to qualify for insurance coverage.

Mr Culmer said that currently, a person seeking medical insurance coverage who has a pre-existing condition might be given a six-month to one-year exclusion. Now, he lamented, they “should be prepared to receive a permanent exclusion”.

He added that life/health insurance company consolidations in the Bahamian market have reduced consumer choice options, further impeding the search for coverage.

“The introduction of new companies will be a welcomed initiative,” said Mr Culmer.

Though the medical insurance market in the Bahamas has shrunk in the past few years, and finding coverage is soon to become arduous and difficult, Mr Culmer said there were still international options Bahamians can seek out if local carriers deny coverage.

“Your only recourse is to start living a healthy lifestyle or go overseas for coverage - reach out globally,” he said.

“But your first choice should be to exhaust what

SEE page 4B

Bank creditors face \$333m ‘black hole’

* Leadenhall liquidator seeking directions from Supreme Court over whether to appeal \$330m claim’s admission, as inclusion leaves creditors looking at \$0.06 of every \$1 recovery

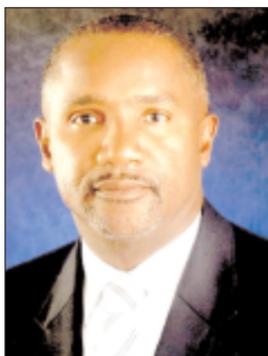
* Warns that may have to write-off 50% of outstanding \$3.458m loan balances owed to bank

* Ordered to transfer assets related to Whale Cay development in Berry Islands to Private Trust, following initial Higgs & Johnson approach

By **NEIL HARTNELL**
Tribune Business Editor

The liquidator of a Bahamian bank is set to ask the Supreme Court for directions as to whether he should pursue a Privy Council appeal over a verdict that potentially leaves the institution and its creditors with a \$333.141 million black hole, while also estimating that 50 per cent of outstanding loans owed to it may be written-off.

The Supreme Court’s decision to admit a \$330.228 million claim brought against the former Leadenhall Bank & Trust by a group of investors in the failed ‘Cash 4 Titles’ Ponzi scheme is the major obstacle to Craig A. ‘Tony’



CRAIG GOMEZ

Gomez, the Baker Tilly Gomez accountant and partner, completing a successful court-supervised liquidation

of the institution. The Supreme Court’s decision on the Cash 4 Titles issue, which was upheld by the Court of Appeal, has left Leadenhall Bank & Trust’s creditors looking at a potential recovery of just \$0.06 in every \$1 invested, as opposed to regaining most of the sum due to them if the Cash 4 Titles claim was not allowed.

If it is included, Mr Gomez’s ninth report to the Supreme Court shows that Leadenhall’s estate has a \$333.141 million solvency deficiency, with assets of \$23.859 million dwarfed by a \$357 million sum owed to

SEE page 3B

‘Catastrophic impact’ warning over labour unrest predictions

* Chamber chief urges:

‘Calmer heads must prevail’

* Calls on all sides to stop seeing negotiations as a ‘zero sum’ game where there has to be an outright winner, citing Blue Hill Road situation as one where ‘no one wins’

* Adds: ‘We’re already going through a difficult period, and all this does is exacerbate what we’re going through’

By **NEIL HARTNELL**
Tribune Business Editor

Mass industrial unrest would have a “catastrophic impact” on an already weakened Bahamian economy, the Bahamas Chamber of Commerce’s president told Tribune Business yesterday, warning that “no one” would win and urging: “Calm heads have to prevail for the good of everyone”.

Khaalil Rolle reiterated his

SEE page 4B



KHAALIS ROLLE

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Mergers ‘catapult’ Bahamas forward

* SRG chief says Cable tie-up, plus BTC privatisation, have potential to be ‘real economic driver’ for Bahamas and key industries

* Argues that market activity will see nation ‘leapfrog’ forward in terms of communications technology, stalled BTC privatisation having put Bahamas behind Caribbean rivals

* Cable merger the ‘perfect marriage’, enabling SRG to go head-to-head with BTC on fixed-line voice, with former able to use partner’s technology to reach new customers

By **NEIL HARTNELL**
Tribune Business Editor

The impending Bahamas Telecommunications Company (BTC) privatisation, together with the Cable Bahamas/IndiGo Networks merger, should “catapult this nation forward” in terms of enhanced communications technology, a leading industry executive told Tribune Business yesterday, adding that this activity had the potential to “be a real economic driver”.



PAUL HUTTON-ASHKENNY

SEE page 4B

Environment is a ‘Captive’ market for the Bahamas

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

THE BAHAMAS should focus development of its captive insurance industry on Environmental Captives, the president of Premier Environmental Services’ Canadian operations said yesterday, as this country attempts to develop a niche for itself in this market.

David Wade, speaking at the Bahamas Financial Services Board’s (BFSB) Captive Insurance Seminar, said this niche market, also known as The Green Captive, is not widely serviced by many of the larger captive domiciles and could be a good fit for the Bahamas.

SEE page 3B

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BUSINESS

D'ANDRA LETITIA GREENSLADE



D'andra graduated from the College of the Bahamas (COB) in 2010 with a BBA Degree in Accounting, with Distinction.

She completed her secondary school education at the Bahamas Academy of Seventh-Day Adventists, graduating in 2005 as Class Salutatorian with Honours. She won the Accounting Awards at her annual Honours Convocation, achieving an A grade in Accounts BGCSE.

While at COB (2005-2010), D'andra remained on the Dean's List every semester and achieved the President's Award for two consecutive years (2005-2006).

For the Fall Semester 2008, she participated in COB's Study Abroad programme at Acadia University in Wolfville, Nova Scotia, Canada, achieving a GPA of 3.68 during that experience.

While at COB, she also was awarded the BICA scholarship for the Fall Semester 2007, qualifying for a BICA Book Award for Spring Semester 2008.

D'andra plans to obtain her CPA Licence, and also eventually enroll in either COB's MBA programme or pursue a Master's in Finance or International Business abroad. She is currently employed at Deloitte & Touche (Bahamas) as a Junior 2 accountant/auditor.

STUDENTS ON A TRAIL TO THE TOP

Five finalists for the Bahamas Financial Services Board's (BFSB) student of the year award show others the way to success

TONIA A. A. TURNQUEST



Tonia is a 2010 graduate of the College of the Bahamas (COB) with a BBA in Accounting, with Distinction, and the School of Business Award 2010.

She completed her primary and secondary school education in Long Island, graduating from the N.G.M. Major High in 2005. While at COB she also received the COB and Lyford Cay/Marilu Tolo scholarship (2008-2010), and the Long Islanders Association Scholarship (2005-2007). She remained on the President's Honour Roll at COB between 2005-2006. Tonia gained experience in the corporate world during her educational career, working as an office assistant at the Long Island Resource Centre, St. Gregory's Anglican Church and as an accounting/office assistant at Premium Discount Liquors.

She is currently employed at KPMG as an assistant accountant, and plans to pursue her CPA designation in 2011.

D'ANDRA ASHLEY JOHNSON



D'andra is a 2010 Graduate of the College of the Bahamas (COB), with an AA Degree in Law & Criminal Justice, with Distinction.

She completed her junior high school education at the Nassau Christian Academy, graduating with honours, then moved to Miami Carol City Senior High School in Florida, where she also was an honours student.

D'andra returned to the Bahamas to complete her high school education at the Abaco Central High School, graduating on the Principal's List as Valedictorian.

After High School, D'andra worked for a year at Scotiabank (Bahamas) before beginning her full time College career in 2007 at COB, studying Law and Criminal Justice, a field she describes as her lifetime passion.

She was on the Dean's List for the first two semesters, and on the President's List every semester thereafter.

She also obtained the Golden Key International Society Award and an invitation to join the Society (COB Chapter). While at COB, she was active in its Bahamas Law Society.

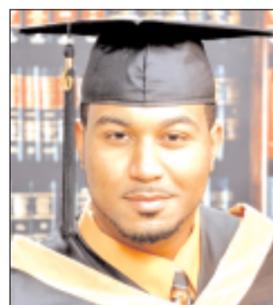
She is presently at the University of Buckingham studying for an LLB (Honours) Law with Economics Degree.

Edmond entered the College of the Bahamas (COB) in 2004, after completing his secondary high school education at Preston H. Albury High in Rock Sound, Eleuthera, as head boy, class president and valedictorian.

While at Preston, he received the highest BJC results (social studies), the Ministry of Education's Highest GPA (Eleuthera) award as well as the Academic Excellence Award from the South Eleuthera Township. He was a member of GGYA and the Key Club. Edmund graduated from COB in 2010 with a BBA Degree in Accounting, with Distinction. While at COB, he began his career in banking at FirstCaribbean International Bank (2005), where he remains employed today as a customer care officer.

He has been actively involved in the bank's community outreach initiatives, and his immediate goals are to complete the CPA exam and to begin practice in a public accounting firm.

EDMUND TERRAN BAIN



KAYMORE D. BETHEL



Kaymore completed her secondary education at Nassau Christian Schools, obtaining 7 BJCs and 8 BGCSEs, graduating as salutatorian.

While at Nassau Christian Academy she was active as a prefect, deputy head girl and Junior Achievement (she served as vice-president of finance from 2005-2006). She entered the College of the Bahamas in 2007 and graduated with Distinction with an AA Degree in Law and Criminal Justice.

While at COB, she was on the Dean's List through to her last semester, when she achieved the President's List. Between fall 2008 and spring 2009, she served as deputy chief chancellor in the Law and Criminal Justice Society at COB. She has enjoyed summer experiences with the Central Bank of the Bahamas, as well as Alexiou, Knowles and Company, and is presently employed at P&H Enterprises. Kaymore plans to pursue an LL.B and a Master's in Maritime Law.



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Bank creditors face \$333m 'black hole'

FROM page 1B

creditors. Thomas Evans QC, of Evans & Co, the attorneys for Mr Gomez, late yesterday afternoon confirmed to Tribune Business that the liquidator was due to approach the Supreme Court for instructions as to whether he should seek leave to appeal the Supreme Court/Court of Appeal rulings to the Privy Council. "It's an appeal for directions from the court as to whether or not an appeal should be pursued," Mr Evans said. "The liquidator cannot take any serious steps unless directed to do so by the court. All he's going to as the court is: Should he seek leave or not seek leave."

As to the consequences of having to admit the Cash 4 Titles claim, Mr Evans said: "It reduces the interest of the other creditors substantially, several thousand times."

"That's the biggest issue affecting the liquidation process for obvious reasons. If we can get that resolved, I think the liquidation can be very swiftly brought to a close."

The Supreme Court, Mr Gomez and his attorneys will thus have to determine whether the risk/reward balance is tilted in their favour, weighing up whether the cost to the Leadenhall estate is worth it when matched against the chances of a ruling in its favour.

But even if the Cash 4 Titles matter is resolved in the liquidator's favour, it seems likely that Leadenhall's creditors will not recover 100 per cent of the sum owed to them, Mr Gomez warning in his latest Supreme Court report that he may have to write-off 50 per cent of the \$3.458 million worth of loan receivables due to the bank.

Offered

While one major debtor had, through its attorneys at Lennox Paton, offered to settle the matter, there were still some six outstanding loans owed to Leadenhall.

"As it will be necessary for me to retain counsel in a foreign jurisdiction to recover the remaining balance of the outstanding loans, which will be costly to the liquidation, I estimate that approximately 50 per cent of the entire outstanding loan balance could possibly be written-off," Mr Gomez said.

This would take some \$1.729 million off Leadenhall's \$23.859 million total assets, leaving creditors recovering \$0.93 in every \$1, by Tribune Business calculations.

The liquidator added that while he was also "pursuing" the recovery of an alleged fraudulent cheque worth Cdn\$125,937, he was "also considering whether it was feasible to further deplete the assets of the bank" to do so, adding that it would be "a difficult process".

Meanwhile, the Leadenhall liquidation has also become embroiled in the transfer of mortgage assets related to the purchase of land for a real estate development on Whale Cay in the Berry Islands.

"The Whale Cay Group of investors entered into a contract to purchase land on Whale Cay, Berry Islands, the Bahamas," Mr Gomez said. "However, the investors applied for but did not get the approval for a foreign person to own land in the Bahamas at the time of the contract."

"Leadenhall was approached and provided a declaration of trust, dated August 2, 2000, and June 13, 2002 to hold the mortgage for the land on behalf of the investors. Leadenhall received a one-time payment of \$15,000 for their services. The permit for a foreign person to own land in the Bahamas was obtained by the investors from the Bahamas Investment Authority Board on March 29, 2010."

As a result, Higgs & Johnson had approached Mr Gomez on the investors' behalf, seeking the transfer of the trust assets - namely mortgages held in behalf of America Investment Properties and Peter Casoria, which were the security for monies advanced to Whale Cay Group Ltd."

Supreme Court Justice Bernard Turner made no finding on the validity of the trusts at a June 11, 2010, hearing, but found that the assets they contained were not part of Leadenhall's estate, and ordered that they be transferred to The Private Trust Corporation.

Provider 'on par' with budget goal

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

A Bahamian telecommunications provider yesterday said its 2010 performance was "on par" with budgeted expectations, as it prepared to "compete fair and square, direct and centre" with the Bahamas Telecommunications Company (BTC) via its impending merger with Cable Bahamas.

Paul Hutton-Ashkenny, president of IndiGo Networks' parent, Systems Resource Group (SRG), said of the company's performance for the year-to-date: "We've got a pretty weak economy, but I think it's fair to say that although we've seen some areas of business soften, and some harden, we're probably where we expected to be in terms of Budget."

"We've seen some sectors a little softer than they were last year, some tourism-driven sectors, but on the whole, given where the economy is, we're pretty much where we expected to be."

Mr Hutton-Ashkenny explained that SRG's proposed tie-up with Cable

Bahamas was timed to exploit the liberalisation and changes that were taking place in the Bahamian communications market, with BTC likely to become a foreign majority-owned company if privatisation talks with Cable & Wireless proved successful.

In contrast, the merged Cable Bahamas/SRG entity was 100 per cent Bahamian-owned, and the deal would position it to "compete fair and square, front and centre, with a revitalised BTC, offering converged telecommunications services".

Data

Both the Cable Bahamas/SRG combination and BTC would offer the 'Triple Play' of voice, video and data services, and Mr Hutton-Ashkenny said the merger was similar to the Government's search for a BTC strategic partner, at least from SRG's perspective.

BTC's response to the Cable Bahamas/SRG alliance being consummated was non-hostile yesterday. Marlon

Johnson, its vice-president of sales and marketing, told Tribune Business: "One of the things BTC has always gone on record as saying is that it supports moves that enhance competition in the sector, because it benefits the consumer."

"We want to ensure that everything is done in accordance with the spirit and intent of the Communications Act, the regulations, Utilities Regulation & Competition Authority (URCA), and the proper regulatory criteria."

"Once that is done, we recognise that the growth of the market and development of the market is something that benefits all players in the market, and most importantly benefits consumers in the market."

"We support the participation of companies in a way that certainly benefits society as a whole."

Edison Sumner, chief operating officer of the Bahamas' other budding 'Triple Play' provider, IP Solutions International, did not respond to Tribune Business's calls seeking comment on the Cable Bahamas/SRG deal.

Environment is a 'Captive' market for the Bahamas

FROM page 1B

According to him, a Bahamas-domiciled Green Captive market could produce benefits such as name recognition, a competitive advantage over other domiciles as a result of the niche, attract international experts, improve service offerings to clients in international marine and aviation, international insurance and international companies, encourage entrepreneurial activities, increase the Government's tax base and create high quality jobs.

Mr Wade added that an environmental focus would increase global awareness of domiciles for captive insurance by focusing on their support for scientific advances in environmental issues, preservation of natural resources and a mature regulatory regime. The Bahams, if it targeted this area, would also receive positive recognition for strong moral and social values, being on the forefront of developing trends and for its technology and sophistication.

While the Bahamas' captive insurance market consists of only about 15 entities, experts on suggest a niche market is this coun-

try's best option.

Principal at KPMG (Bahamas), Annie Chinafat, said the Bahamas can become a domicile of choice for captives, as the cost of setting up such companies is less than that of Cayman and Bermuda, and on par with the Turks and Caicos islands.

Director of Financial Risk Management and Actuarial Services at KPMG (Cayman Islands), Alan Morris, said the Bahamas also has the advantage of having a robust infrastructure and proximity to the US.

Ms Chinafat and Mr Morris both agree that the Bahamas could construct its captives market much quicker, and be more appealing, if it focuses on become a niche domicile. Turks and Caicos has a niche in warranties, and Cayman in healthcare-related captives.

According to statistics, Bermuda is the largest captives domicile, writing \$11 billion in casualty business in 2007, which accounted for 57 per cent of all business written. The island's 2007 captive assets totalled \$88.8 billion, with total premiums of \$19.4 billion.

The Bahamas is ranked

number 23 for its share of captives. Cayman Islands, Vermont, the British Virgin Islands and Guernsey all trail Bermuda.

Superintendent of the Insurance Commission of the Bahamas (ICB), Lennox McCartney, said during the seminar that the his organisation has attended a number of forums and conferences on captive insurance, and looks forward to the growth of the industry.

"The Commission continues to support the development of the industry by

attending these conferences," said Mr McCartney.

"We believe that our presence at these conferences has helped to re-invigorate interest in the Bahamas as an international insurance domicile. From personal experience, contacts were made that resulted in firms deciding to do business in the Bahamas."

According to him, the Commission is currently reviewing several applications directly attributed to attendance at the conferences.

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BUSINESS

Mergers 'catapult' Bahamas forward

FROM page 1B

Paul Hutton-Ashkenny, president of IndiGo Networks' parent, Systems Resource Group (SRG), told this newspaper that the enhanced communications sector activity, brought about by the Government's 'twin track' policy of liberalisation and privatisation, would enable the Bahamas to "leapfrog" forward and catch up with Caribbean countries where industry technology was more advanced, having embraced those policy concepts earlier.

"From our point of view, it's very good for the consumer, and sort of leapfrogs the Bahamas in terms of communications technology in the region, too," Mr Hutton-Ashkenny told Tribune Business. "We've been left a little behind because of the stalled privatisations of BTC, and other nations that were able to liberalise more quickly were able to jump forward in terms of technology."

"This sort of activity is going to catapult us forward in terms of available communications technology in the country - the technology, choice for the consumer and, hopefully, the price."

Describing the proposed Cable/SRG merger's timing as "perfect", and "making commercial sense and telecommunications sense for the country", Mr Hutton-Ashkenny said the tie-up between the BISX-listed

company's fibre-optic infrastructure and SRG's wireless network was the "perfect marriage".

He explained that SRG's fixed-line voice technology could now be combined with Cable Bahamas' fibre optic infrastructure that went directly into Bahamian homes, enabling the merged entity to go 'head-to-head' with a privatised BTC in the residential voice market.

And, on the other hand, Cable Bahamas would be able to use the "outer edges" of SRG's wireless infrastructure to reach communities it was previously not "cost effective" to serve with its product menu, particularly dispersed settlements in some Family Islands.

"Cable Bahamas has infrastructure, we have voice technology," Mr Hutton-Ashkenny explained. "When we look at our offering today, it's certainly infrastructure-based to the commercial sector, the corporate sector, but is Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) based to the consumer, the residential sector."

"It will enable us to fully and effectively compete with BTC, which has infrastructure to the home, marrying Cable Bahamas infrastructure with SRG's voice technology. That's one of the things we'll be able to do very quickly."

By the same token, SRG's available wireless spectrum would allow Cable Bahamas to use "areas at the outer

edges of our network to cost effectively reach consumers they've not been able to reach".

"The more choice we can give the consumer, the better off they are," Mr Hutton-Ashkenny said, adding that, if the Cable Bahamas/SRG merger was approved, BTC was privatised (with Cable & Wireless the likely partner) and IP Solutions International came through, the Bahamas could have three providers each offering 'Triple Play', converged telecoms solutions to residential and business users.

Objectives

"One of the Government's objectives," he added, "in this new policy, the Communications Act and the new sector created from the recent legislation, was to use communications as a key driver of major economic sectors in the Bahamas, tourism and financial services."

"We believe this kind of activity in the sector is exactly the thing that drives the economy forward. Communications can be a real economic driver, and has been in other jurisdictions. We believe this drives the economy in the way that it was intended the new sector would be able to drive these industries."

Mr Hutton-Ashkenny said the merger with Cable Bahamas was set to put SRG, which has 30 staff, "in

growth mode, certainly in the immediate term, which is a good thing in the weak economy".

Cable Bahamas and SRG had made their application to the Utilities Regulation & Competition Authority (URCA), seeking approval for the merger, last Friday. The sector regulator, he added, had clear structure and timelines for approving/rejecting the deal.

"We think the timing is perfect, think it's good for the consumer, think it's good for employees of both companies," Mr Hutton-Ashkenny said.

"We haven't moved into this lightly. We had a very careful look at how the regulator would view it, and believe it's beneficial to the consumer, rather than harmful to the consumer."

"We hope the regulator looks at it from our perspective."

Exclusion fears over medical insurance coverage

FROM page 1B

you have here."

Mr Culmer said numerous insurers can be found on the Internet and used if the business is accepted in the company's domicile.

Brokers who sell health insurance have themselves been distressed, as health insurers often advise group health insurance holders to cut their broker out in order to have their initial or renewal premium reduced.

"This is now against the law and can be deemed to be 'rebating', according to section 137 of the act, which can be summarised as saying no part of the premium shall be rebated or offers made indirectly or directly to secure a sale," said Mr Culmer.

'Catastrophic impact' warning over labour unrest predictions

FROM page 1B

calls for the three players in 'Tripartite' labour relations - trade unions, businesses and the Government - to avoid treating negotiations as a "zero sum" game where each party wanted to achieve an outright win, and instead arrive at "mutually acceptable" solutions.

Responding to statements by Bahamas Public Services Union (BPSU) and Trades Union Congress (TUC) head, John Pinder, that a year of industrial unrest in the Bahamian public sector was looming, Mr Rolle cited the impasse between the Government and Coconut Grove Business League over the New Providence Road Improvement Project as what could happen if parties to disputes failed to negotiate outcomes acceptable to all concerned.

"We all know what the catastrophic impact of that will be," Mr Rolle said of Mr Pinder's 'industrial unrest' forecast. "I'm just hoping we can avoid it."

"At this time, we just need to bring this thing to a negotiated end that is mutually acceptable and ensures that what is being talked about and required is reasonable. We sometimes fight over demands that are unreasonable, and I believe that no one wins when there are major work stoppages."

"We're already going through a difficult period, and all this does is exacerbate what we're going through. Calmer heads have to prevail for the good of everyone."

Courts

Pointing to the current legal battle raging in the courts over the New Providence Road Improvement Project's impact on businesses in the Blue Hill Road and Market Street areas, Mr Rolle said it showed how "no one is winning" when parties to a dispute attempt to score an 'outright win' and fail to agree a compromise where everyone gets something.

"The businesses are not winning, the Government is not winning because both parties are not looking at this on reasonable terms," the Chamber president said. "It's always: 'I get what I want, and I don't care about anyone else'. Businesses are still suffering, and the cost of the roadworks is increasing."

"Tell me who's winning. I warned early on to bring it to a negotiated end. We're months down the line, and costs to businesses continue to spiral out of control and the budget dedicated to this project continues to spiral out of control."

The Chamber president added: "The things we should be fired up about, we're not fired up about. This crime rate is spiralling out of control, and there are things causing us to be plunged into realms we are not accustomed to. These are the things we should be fired up about."

Empathising with the trade unions, and telling Tribune Business that he understood the collective bargaining process, Mr Rolle said: "At the end of the day, everyone has to see the needs of the opposing side, and be willing to give up something in the process."

"Negotiating is about giving up something to get something. But in our mindset, no one is willing to concede."

Asked about his message for the trade unions and working Bahamians, Mr Rolle replied: "Make sure your decision-making process is clearly thought-out, and recognise the impact it's going to have."

"Everybody has to take that message. It's not only the unions; everyone involved in the collective bargaining process has to understand what the impact is going to be. We don't understand the ripple effect of our actions, and frankly I don't believe anyone truly cares. This is everyone involved in collective bargaining discussions."

"Negotiations are how to get to a point that is reasonably acceptable. A zero sum game can't be."

* Bahamas Chamber of Commerce executives go into their Retreat this Friday aiming to finalise the plan for merging their organisation with the Bahamas Employers Confederation (BECon).

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) consultant charged with developing the plan will present it, with additional feedback set to come from Chamber representatives.

"This is the final major hurdle in the merger," Mr Rolle told Tribune Business, adding that the meeting would seek "additional input to finalise it".



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Cuba summons workers to explain coming layoffs

WILL WEISSERT, Associated Press Writer HAVANA

Cuba is calling workers across the island to special meetings so labor leaders can brief them on half a million government layoffs coming in the next six months and suggest ways that those fired can make a living.

The "workers' assemblies" that began on Sept. 15 include hundreds of meetings with state employees in union halls, government auditoriums and even basements or garages of state-run companies, according to a report Monday in the state-run labor union newspaper Trabajadores.

The proceedings are closed and attendees so far have been tight-lipped about what is being discussed. But Salvador Valdes Mesa, head of the nearly 3 million-member Cuban Workers Confederation, said they are designed to tell workers about "the labor policies that will govern the country in order to achieve the structural changes the economy needs."

"We are confronting the need to make our economy more efficient, better organize production, increase worker productivity and identify the reserves we have," Valdes Mesa was quoted as telling a weekend gathering of transportation and port employees in the eastern province of Holguin.

During the meetings, workers are asked to vote in favor of the reforms, meaning they will be officially endorsed by some of the very Cubans who may lose their jobs.

Cuba announced on Sept. 13 that it would lay off 500,000 workers by March and loosen state controls on private enterprise so that many of those fired can find new jobs. It said it would also beef up the tax code and revamp state pay scales to better reward high job performance.

President Raul Castro warned in April that as many as 1 million Cuban state employees — a fifth of a total island work force of 5.1 million — may be superfluous.

The president has not commented publicly since the



INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

reforms were announced, though he has said authorities have no intention of abandoning the socialist state they spent decades building.

Instead, preparing workers for what's to come has fallen to Valdes Mesa's union, which is allied with the Communist Party and the only one the government allows.

Some of the meetings include just a few employees from a single office. Others involve hundreds from a whole city neighborhood.

An internal Communist Party document detailing the unprecedented overhaul envisions a radically reshaped economy, freshly legalized private cooperatives and a state payroll trimmed of many idle or unproductive workers.

The document says many laid-off workers will be urged to form private cooperatives. Others will go to work for foreign-run companies or set up their own small businesses in fields such as transportation, food and house rental.

Already, 144,000 Cubans work for themselves and 823,000 overall are part of the private sector, though that includes vast farm cooperatives run in accord with state administrative decisions.

The government still employs the other 84 percent of the official work force.

Government workers take home an average of about \$20 per month, though the state provides free education and health care and subsidizes housing, utilities, transportation and food.

The layoffs will affect all corners of the government except those considered "indispensable."

(AP Photo/Franklin Reyes) **MAKING IT SNACKY:** Workers prepare sandwiches at a snack bar in Havana, Cuba.



(AP Photo/Franklin Reyes) **FOOD PREPARATION:** Workers prepare food at a cafeteria in Havana, Cuba, Tuesday, Sept. 14, 2010. After the announcement made Monday by Cuba's government that it will cast off at least half a million state employees by mid-2011, the island leaders have already determined what workers should do after being dismissed from their jobs, detailing a plan for them to raise rabbits, paint buildings, make bricks, collect garbage and pilot ferries across Havana's bay.



(AP Photo/Franklin Reyes) **HAIR WE GO:** Gilberto Torrente cuts hair at his barbershop in Havana, Cuba, Tuesday, Sept. 14, 2010.



(AP Photo/Javier Galeano) **LINING UP:** Government employees line up to enter a state-run bus after work in Old Havana, Cuba, Monday, 13, 2010. Raul Castro's government announced Monday it will cast off at least a million state employees by mid-2011 and reduce restrictions on private enterprise to help them find new jobs.

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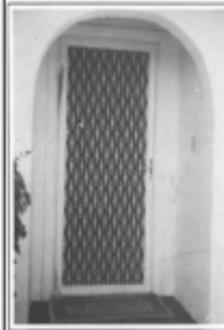
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INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

Dollar trades in tight range before key Fed meeting

NEW YORK

The dollar traded in a tight range Monday against the euro and yen ahead of a key meeting of Federal Reserve policymakers that could have broad implications for the dollar's value, according to Associated Press.

The Fed committee meets Tuesday and the dollar often reacts sharply to any policy changes on interest rates or revisions in the Fed's outlook for the economy.

In late afternoon trading in New York, the euro rose to \$1.3062 from \$1.3043 late Friday. The dollar edged lower to 85.77 yen from 85.79 yen.

If the central bank on Tuesday signals that it will start buying up Treasuries to help support the economy, the dollar could tumble broadly, MF Global analyst Jessica Hoversen said.

Such a move by the Fed would likely drive interest rates lower, which tends to weigh on the dollar.

Most analysts do not expect the central bank to announce the start of such a program Tuesday, however. Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke had said late last month that the economy would have to decline significantly to prod the Fed into further action.

Worries that the Fed will do more to bring down rates have already driven the dollar down by more than 2 percent since late August against a group of six actively traded currencies.

Last week, concerns about weak U.S. growth and expectations of a move by the Fed helped drive the dollar to a 15-year low of 82.88 yen, just before the Bank of Japan intervened in currency markets to weaken the yen. The dollar has largely held on to its gains versus the Japanese currency since Japan's intervention.

The euro had hit a five-week high of \$1.3159 in Friday's trading following Japan's move.

In other trading Monday, the British pound fell to \$1.5545 from \$1.5625 while the dollar slipped to 1.0287 Canadian dollars from 1.0311 Canadian dollars and to 1.0061 Swiss francs from 1.0102 Swiss francs.



INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

Spirit Airlines plans IPO

MIRAMAR, Florida

Spirit Airlines plans an initial public offering that it hopes will raise as much as \$300 million, according to Associated Press.

Spirit is a small airline based in Florida, but it has gotten attention this year for a pilot strike and charging a fee for some carry-on bags.

The share price for the offering has not yet been set, the company said Friday in a filing with federal regulators.

Spirit, which is privately held, says it expects to keep \$150 million of the proceeds from the offering, and use most of the rest to pay off debt.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **WESLEY BELIZAIRE of 5840 Siena Ln, Hollywood, FL 33021**, is applying to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, for registration/naturalization as a citizen of The Bahamas, and that any person who knows any reason why registration/naturalization should not be granted, should send a written and signed statement of the facts within twenty-eight days from the **21st day of September, 2010** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

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LENNAR RETURNS TO PROFIT IN 3Q AND SHARES SOAR



(AP Photo/J Pat Carter)

WORK IN PROGRESS: In this Sept. 4, 2010 photo, construction continues in Lennar's Silver Palms housing addition in Homestead, Fla. Lennar Corp. returned to profitability in its fiscal third quarter Monday, Sept. 20, as home deliveries climbed and construction costs declined.

**ALEX VEIGA,
AP Real Estate Writer
LOS ANGELES**

Lennar Corp. returned to a profitable third quarter Monday as strong completed sales helped drive a 14 percent jump in revenue and the homebuilder's construction costs declined, according to Associated Press.

But the absence of federal homebuyer tax credits sapped demand in the June-August period and new home orders fell 15 percent.

President and CEO Stuart Miller said June was the slowest month of the quarter, while July and August were "a little less horrible."

"It's been a tough summer," Miller said. "As we've gone into September, we're seeing a little bit of pickup in our traffic, but that shouldn't be cause to have a sigh of relief at this point."

Lennar and other homebuilders enjoyed a bump in sales this spring as affordable prices, low mortgage rates and two federal tax credits lured homebuyers into the market. Since the tax credits expired at the end of April, the number of people looking to buy has dropped. Even the lowest mortgage rates in decades have failed to push sales.

The biggest hurdle remains uncertainty over any economic recovery with the country's unemployment hovering near 10 percent.

The National Association of Home Builders said Monday its index of homebuilders' confidence in the housing market remains at the lowest level in 18 years for the second month in a row.

Stuart said the housing market recovery will continue to be "rocky and sloppy," but there are some positive signals.

"There are real buyers out there," he said. "A modest improvement in the job market and consumer confidence will dramatically improve demand."

The Miami builder said it earned \$30 million, or 16 cents per share, for the three months ended Aug. 31. That compares with a loss of \$171.6 million, or 97 cents a share, a year earlier.

Revenue

Revenue rose 14 percent to \$825 million from \$720.7 million.

The performance easily beat the expectations of analysts surveyed by Thomson Reuters, who predicted earnings of 5 cents a share on \$777.5 million in revenue. These estimates usually remove one-time items.

Management reiterated that it expects to post a profit for the full year.

While some of the other major publicly traded builders have posted a profit of late, they also have seen new home orders drop sharply the deeper they got into the summer. But Lennar's new

home orders didn't fall as much as some analyst had anticipated, and its shares spiked 9.3 percent, or \$1.30, to \$15.29.

"While these results clearly don't point to any real improvement in the demand picture, we believe that Lennar's ability to continue to show profitability in this slow operating environment will be a positive for the stock," Barclays Capital analyst Megan McGrath wrote Monday.

The company credited its revenue rise mostly to the increase in completed sales, which rose to 2,909 compared with 2,660 homes in the prior-year period. Average home prices rose slightly to \$240,000 from \$239,000, while incentives were reduced to \$30,600 per home delivered from \$42,200.

The company said some areas of Maryland, north Virginia, Raleigh, N.C., Texas and even South Florida are doing better than most of the other markets in the U.S. The builder has seen higher demand in those areas and been able to raise prices in some communities.

Aside from reducing construction costs, the homebuilder also managed to trim its selling general and administrative expenses by 4 percent.

Lennar has operations in 17 states and sells homes for entry level and move-up buyers as well as retirees. It also operates a unit that primarily buys distressed real estate investments.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **PAUL BAPTISTE of NASSAU STREET, P.O. BOX CR-54802, NASSAU, BAHAMAS**, is applying to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, for registration/naturalization as a citizen of The Bahamas, and that any person who knows any reason why registration/naturalization should not be granted, should send a written and signed statement of the facts within twenty-eight days from the **14th day of September, 2010** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

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Discover profit falls due to year-ago settlement

**EILEEN AJ CONNELLY,
AP Business Writer
NEW YORK**

Increased use of its credit cards and improved customer payment habits helped lift Discover Financial Services Co.'s fiscal third-quarter results, the company said Monday, according to Associated Press.

Sales volume for purchases made with its cards rose 5 percent over a year ago, to \$24 billion. "I think that bodes well," said Chairman and CEO David Nelms in an interview after the results were released. "Some of the discretionary spending is gradually coming back as consumers get a little more confidence in their financial situation."

At the same time, late payments and write downs due to non-payments fell. Nelms said those statistics reflect more cautious consumer who is spending less and more careful about managing their debt. "I think there are many consumers who are in better shape than they were three years ago," he said.

For the three months ended Aug. 31, Discover Financial said net income attributable to common stockholders was \$258.2 million, or 47 cents per share.

That compares with \$552.9 million, or \$1.07 cents per share, last year, which included a \$287 million legal settlement related to antitrust litigation with Visa and MasterCard. Adjusted to remove that and other one-time items, the 2009 quarter profit was \$131 million, or 25 cents per share.

Revenue fell 7 percent to \$1.71 billion from \$1.84 billion a year ago.

Fees

The drop in revenue reflects in part lower fees collected from customers making payments late, and the company's elimination of overlimit fees beginning in February.

Analysts polled by Thomson Reuters, on average, expected the Riverwoods, Ill., company to post profit of 37 cents per share, on \$1.66 billion revenue. Nelms said the sales volume increase also reflected an increasing number of merchants that accept Discover. "I do think part of that is because our growing acceptance means more consumer spending is going on our cards," he said.

During a conference call to discuss the results, Nelms said recent deals mean the card will soon be accepted by merchants that handle over 97 percent of U.S. credit card purchase volume, and will bring Discover closer to the number of outlets that accept MasterCard and Visa cards. The wider acceptance rate will help increase future profits, he said.

Total outstanding credit cards loans were \$45.2 billion, down \$2.9 billion from a year ago, a drop the company said was driven by lower balances with promotional interest rates and an increased payment rate. Total loans ended the quarter at \$50.1 billion, down 2 percent from a year ago. The decline in credit card loans was somewhat offset by an increase in student loans, Discover said.

Discover last week said it was increasing its footprint in the student loan business by buying Student Loan Corp. from Citigroup Inc. for \$600 million. During the call, Nelms said the acquisition is expected to add 9 cents per share to 2011 profit.

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

Stocks extend the September rally; S&P breaks out of range

STEPHEN BERNARD, AP Business Writer NEW YORK

Stocks extended their September rally into a fourth week Monday as investors hoped for more moves by the Federal Reserve to prop up the economy.

Buying accelerated after the Standard & Poor's 500 index broke through the high end of its recent trading range. Technical analysts see that as a hopeful sign for the market.

The S&P 500, the index most closely tracked by professional investors, rose to its highest level since May 18. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 150 points in afternoon trading. Buyers were also encouraged by an announcement from a group of economists declaring that the most recent recession ended in June 2009.

There is a growing expectation that the Fed's rate-setting committee could relaunch programs to buy Treasuries and mortgage bonds in an effort to further stimulate the struggling economy. At the very least, it might hint at future plans to make such moves following its one-day meeting Tuesday. "The Fed will hint at it, put it on the table, but not do anything," said Brian Gendreau, a market strategist at Financial Network Investment Corp.

While many economic indicators have topped forecasts in recent weeks, propelling stocks higher, the economy is far from strong. If the Fed

starts buying bonds again it could drive interest rates lower, enabling companies and consumers to get cheaper loans. The Fed had a similar bond-buying program in place earlier this year. Treasury prices were little changed Monday.

In corporate news, IBM Corp. said it would buy data storage provider Netezza Corp. for about \$1.7 billion in cash. Investors see acquisitions a sign companies are more comfortable using their spare cash built up during the recession in order to expand. "At some point, if growth continues you have to get that money you sitting on working for you," said Cameron Short, a senior vice president at Stifel Nicolaus.

The Dow rose 150.01, or 1.4 percent, to 10,757.86 in afternoon trading. The Dow has risen three straight weeks and is up 7.4 percent so far this month. However it's still more than 4 percent below its high for the year.

The S&P 500 rose 16.77, or 1.5 percent, to 1,142.36. The Nasdaq composite index rose 36.82, or 1.6 percent, to 2,352.43.

The S&P 500 climbed solidly above the key technical level of 1,131 Monday morning, the high end of its recent trading range. The S&P briefly crossed that barrier on Friday for the first time since June 21, but not for long enough to convince analysts that the market had enough momentum to surge higher. Many automatic buy and sell orders are set around market milestones such as these, and investors watch those levels closely for clues about which way the market



Richard Drew/AP Photo

WORKING THE FLOOR: In this Sept. 17, 2010 photo, a trader works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. Stocks are set to extend their September rally into a fourth week Monday, Sept. 20, as traders eye the Federal Reserve's meeting in the coming days.

may go next. Closing significantly above 1,131 Monday could provide enough momentum to drive stocks even higher in the coming days.

About five stocks rose for every one that fell on the New York Stock Exchange, where volume came to 610 million shares. Investors were also encouraged by a softer stance in recent weeks by President Barack Obama's administration about

and business-related programs. Keith Goddard, co-manager of the Capital Advisors Growth Fund, said a shift in policy could mean the Bush-era tax cuts will be extended. That would help dividend-paying stocks, which have been in "no man's land" recently because investors are uncertain the tax rate they'll have to pay on the dividends, Goddard said.

Economic panel declares the recession ended in June 2009

JEANNINE AVERSA, AP Economics Writer WASHINGTON

The longest recession the country has endured since the Great Depression ended in June 2009, a group that dates the beginning and end of recessions declared Monday, according to Associated Press.

The National Bureau of Economic Research, a panel of academic economists based in Cambridge, Mass., said the recession lasted 18 months. It started in December 2007 and ended in June 2009. Previously the longest post World War II downturns were those in 1973-1975 and in 1981-1982. Both of those lasted 16 months.

The NBER decision makes official what many economists have believed for some time, that the recession ended in the summer of 2009. But it won't make much difference to most Americans — especially the nearly 15 million without jobs.

Americans are coping with 9.6 percent unemployment, scant wage gains, weak home values and the worst foreclosure market in decades.

President Barack Obama saw little reason to celebrate the group's finding that the recession had ended.

Appearing at a town-hall meeting sponsored by CNBC, Obama said times are still very hard for people "who are struggling," including those who are out of work and many others who are having difficulty paying their bills.

"The hole was so deep that a lot of people out there are still hurting," the president



INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

said. It's going "to take more time to solve" an economic problem that was years in the making, he added.

Record

The economy started growing again in the July-to-September quarter of 2009, after a record four straight quarters of declines. Thus, the April-to-June quarter of 2009, marked the last quarter when the economy was shrinking. At that time, it contracted just 0.7 percent, after suffering through much deeper declines. That factored into the NBER's decision to pinpoint the end of the recession in June.

Any future downturn in the economy would now mark the start of a new recession, not the continuation of the December 2007 recession, NBER said. That's important because if the economy starts shrinking again, it could mark the onset of a "double-dip" recession. For many economists, the last time that hap-

pened was in 1981-82. To make its determination, the NBER looks at figures that make up the nation's gross domestic product, which measures the total value of goods and services produced within the United States. It also reviews incomes, employment and industrial activity.

The economy lost 7.3 million jobs in the 2007-2009 recession, also the most in the post World War II period.

The Great Depression lasted much longer. The United States suffered through a 43-month recession that ended in 1933.

Then, it slid back into recession, which lasted for 13 months. That ended in 1938.

The NBER normally takes its time in declaring a recession has started or ended.

For instance, the NBER announced in December 2008 that the recession had actually started one year earlier, in December 2007.

Similarly, it declared in July 2003 that the 2001 recession was over. It actually ended 20 months earlier, in November 2001.

Its determination is of interest to economic historians — and political leaders. Recessions that occur on their watch pose political risks.

In President George W. Bush's eight years in office, the United States fell into two recessions. The first started in March 2001 and ended that November. The second one started in December 2007.

NBER's decision means little to ordinary Americans now muddling through a sluggish economic recovery and a weak jobs market. Unem-

ployment is 9.6 percent and has been stuck at high levels since the recession ended.

Many will continue to struggle.

Unemployment usually keeps rising well after a recession ends

Spiked

Four months after the 2007 downturn ended, unemployment spiked to 10.1 percent in October 2009, which was the highest in just over a quarter-century. Some economists believe that marked the high point in joblessness.

But others think it could climb higher — perhaps hitting 10.3 percent by early next year.

After the 2001 recession, for instance, unemployment didn't peak until July 2003 — 19 months later.

Word of the recession's official end comes just two months before Election Day. But the decision isn't likely to play a big role in November's congressional and gubernatorial elections.

Some Democrats might hail it as a sign of progress, but voters are guided by gut reactions far more than economists' pronouncements.

With unemployment still hovering just below 10 percent, some Democrats have urged Obama to stop boasting about any economic progress at all.

They fear it annoys people who feel things are not getting better for themselves and their neighbors, and it makes politicians seem out of touch with ordinary Americans' worries.

Retail gasoline prices drift down

SANDY SHORE, AP Business Writer

Motorists across the country are starting to see retail gasoline prices decline again, after the unexpected closing of a key Midwest pipeline and hurricane threats pushed them up a few pennies earlier this month.

The national average for unleaded regular gas was \$2.726 a gallon on Monday, down about half a cent overnight. It's still nearly a penny higher than a month ago, when the summer driving season was nearing an end, according to AAA, Wright Express and the Oil Price Information Service. The average pump price was 17.5 cents a gallon lower a year ago.

Most analysts expect prices to continue to fall in the weeks ahead as demand continues to decline with the arrival of fall. "The whole retail system has just been pretty stable all summer and into this fall period," said Jim Ritterbusch, president of energy consultancy Ritterbusch and Associates. He said the retail market typically doesn't respond much unless wholesale gasoline futures contracts move a dime either way.

Retail gasoline prices rose last week after Enbridge Energy Partners closed a leaking pipeline that delivered 670,000 barrels of oil a day to Midwestern refineries. That created some concerns about supplies for those facilities even though gasoline inventories remain 14 percent above the five-year average. After the pipeline was reopened Friday, prices began to fall. Chicago-area motorists paid an average of \$3.024 a gallon Monday, down from \$3.029 a gallon a week ago. Drivers in Illinois and the West paid the highest prices Monday, ranging from \$2.834 to \$3.516 a gallon while those in Texas, parts of the Midwest and the South had the cheapest prices.

Threats of tropical storms and hurricanes that may head toward the Gulf of Mexico and disrupt production have also kept gasoline prices up, according to PFGBest analyst Phil Flynn.

"There's still a risk to supply because the storms just keep coming one after another and so the market is a little hesitant to get excited on downside," he said. "We're getting all these outside influences that have been keeping prices from falling."

Most energy contracts rose on the New York Mercantile Exchange, as traders speculated about whether the Federal Reserve will take action this week to boost the sluggish economy with programs to buy mortgage bonds and Treasuries. Benchmark crude for October delivery rose \$1.27 to settle at \$76.19 a barrel on the Nymex. Heating oil added 4.02 cents to settle at \$2.1394 a gallon, gasoline gained 3.04 cents to settle at \$1.9496 a gallon and natural gas fell 20.2 cents to settle at \$3.822 per 1,000 cubic feet. In London, Brent crude rose \$1.51 to settle \$79.32 a barrel on the ICE Futures exchange.

In brief

Canada to examine possible foreign Potash buyout



POTASH MINE: This 2007 file photo, shows the Rocanville potash mine owned by the Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan Inc. in Rocanville, Can.

ROB GILLIES, Associated Press Writer TORONTO

Canada's prime minister says concerns surrounding a possible foreign takeover of Canada's Potash of Saskatchewan will be examined and says foreign takeovers are not automatically approved.

Australia's BHP Billiton Ltd. launched a hostile US\$130-per-share takeover bid last month after Potash directors rejected its offer. Chinese state-owned companies are also interested in making a rival bid. Prime Minister Stephen Harper said Monday he's spoken to Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall, who is wary of both a Chinese and BHP takeover of Potash.

The federal government can block a foreign takeover if it's not a "net benefit" to Canada.

Potash Corp. is the world's largest fertilizer company and one of the province's largest revenue-generating companies.

BISX LISTED & TRADED SECURITIES AS OF:											
MONDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER 2010											
BISX ALL SHARE INDEX: CLOSE 1,500.51 CHG 0.20 %CHG 0.01 YTD -64.87 YTD % -4.14											
FINDEX: CLOSE 000.00 YTD 00.00% 2009 -12.31%											
WWW.BISXBAHAMAS.COM TELEPHONE: 242-323-2330 FACSIMILE: 242-323-2320											
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Security	Symbol	Previous Close	Today's Close	Change	Daily Vol.	EPS \$	Div \$	P/E	Yield
1.26	1.00	AML Foods Limited		1.01	1.01	0.00		0.250	0.040	4.0	3.96%
10.75	9.67	Bahamas Property Fund		10.63	10.63	0.00		0.013	0.200	817.7	1.88%
6.18	4.50	Bank of Bahamas		4.90	4.90	0.00		0.598	0.260	8.2	5.31%
0.58	0.18	Benchmark		0.18	0.18	0.00		-0.877	0.000	N/M	0.00%
3.49	3.15	Bahamas Waste		3.15	3.15	0.00		0.168	0.090	18.8	2.86%
2.15	2.14	Fidelity Bank		2.17	2.17	0.00		0.016	0.040	135.6	1.84%
12.50	9.62	Cable Bahamas		10.77	10.77	0.00		1.212	0.310	8.9	2.88%
2.84	2.50	Colina Holdings		2.50	2.50	0.00		0.781	0.040	3.2	1.60%
7.00	5.40	Commonwealth Bank (S1)		6.28	6.28	0.00		0.422	0.230	14.9	3.66%
3.85	1.63	Consolidated Water BDRs		1.63	1.82	0.19		0.111	0.052	16.4	2.88%
2.55	1.60	Doctor's Hospital		1.90	1.90	0.00		0.627	0.110	3.0	5.79%
6.99	5.94	Fanguard		6.07	6.07	0.00		-0.003	0.240	N/M	3.95%
10.20	8.50	Finco		8.50	8.50	0.00		0.287	0.520	29.6	6.12%
11.40	8.77	First Caribbean Bank		9.74	9.74	0.00		0.720	0.350	13.5	3.59%
5.51	3.75	Focol (S)		5.46	5.46	0.00		0.366	0.170	14.9	3.14%
1.00	1.00	Focol Class B Preference		1.00	1.00	0.00		0.000	0.000	N/M	0.00%
5.59	5.00	ICD Utilities		5.59	5.59	0.00		0.012	0.240	465.8	4.23%
10.50	9.92	J. S. Johnson		9.92	9.92	0.00		0.883	0.640	11.2	6.45%
10.00	10.00	Premier Real Estate		10.00	10.00	0.00		0.355	0.800	28.2	8.00%
BISX LISTED DEBT SECURITIES - (Bonds trade on a Percentage Pricing basis)											
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Security	Symbol	Last Sale	Change	Daily Vol.	Interest	Maturity			
99.46	99.46	Bahamas Note 6.95 (2025)	BAH29	99.46	0.00		6.95%	20 November 2029			
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 17 (Series A) +	FBB17	100.00	0.00		7%	19 October 2017			
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 22 (Series B) +	FBB22	100.00	0.00		Prime + 1.75%	19 October 2022			
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 13 (Series C) +	FBB13	100.00	0.00		7%	30 May 2013			
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 15 (Series D) +	FBB15	100.00	0.00		Prime + 1.75%	29 May 2015			
RoyalFidelity Merchant Bank & Trust Ltd. (Over-The-Counter Securities)											
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Symbol	Bid \$	Ask \$	Last Enter	Daily Vol.	EPS \$	Div \$	P/E	Yield	
10.06	5.01	Bahamas Supermarkets	5.01	6.01	14.00		-2.945	0.000	N/M	0.00%	
0.55	0.40	RND Holdings	0.35	0.40	0.55		0.001	0.000	256.6	0.00%	
CFAL Securities Ltd. (Over-The-Counter Securities)											
41.00	29.00	ABDAB	30.13	31.59	29.00		4.540	0.000	9.03	0.00%	
0.55	0.40	RND Holdings	0.45	0.55	0.55		0.002	0.000	261.90	0.00%	
BISX Listed Mutual Funds											
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Fund Name	NAV	YTD%	Last 12 Months %	NAV 3MTH	NAV 6MTH	NAV Date			
1.4904	1.4005	CFAL Bond Fund	1.4904	3.59%	6.42%	1.475244	1.452500	31-Jul-10			
2.9265	2.8265	CFAL MSI Preferred Fund	2.9115	0.85%	0.23%	2.926483	2.906205	31-Aug-10			
1.5529	1.4920	CFAL Money Market Fund	1.5529	3.02%	4.36%	1.533976	1.518097	10-Sep-10			
3.2025	2.8522	Royal Fidelity Bahamas G & I Fund	2.8624	-8.16%	-7.49%			31-Aug-10			
13.6388	13.0484	Royal Fidelity Prime Income Fund	13.4286	0.46%	2.40%			31-Aug-10			
109.3929	101.6693	CFAL Global Bond Fund	100.3929	5.20%	7.60%	107.570620	103.987340	30-Jun-10			
105.7795	93.1998	CFAL Global Equity Fund	100.1833	-1.52%	3.56%	105.779543	101.725415	30-Jun-10			
1.1223	1.0000	FG Financial Preferred Income Fund	1.1272	3.43%	5.28%			31-Aug-10			
1.0917	1.0000	FG Financial Growth Fund	1.0948	2.51%	6.10%			31-Aug-10			
1.1198	1.0000	FG Financial Diversified Fund	1.1275	3.37%	5.64%			31-Aug-10			
9.5955	9.1005	Royal Fidelity Bah Int'l Investment Fund Principal	9.5955	2.71%	5.96%			31-Jul-10			
11.2361	10.0000	Royal Fidelity Bah Int'l Investment Fund Principal	10.3734	-3.69%	3.38%			31-Jul-10			
10.0000	9.1708	Royal Fidelity Bah Int'l Investment Fund Principal	9.1708	-8.29%	-8.29%			31-Aug-10			
7.9664	4.8105	Royal Fidelity Int'l Fund - Equities Sub Fund	7.5827	-1.74%	11.58%			31-Aug-10			
MARKET TERMS											
BISX ALL SHARE INDEX - 19 Dec 02 = 1,000.00											
52wk-Hi - Highest closing price in last 52 weeks											
52wk-Low - Lowest closing price in last 52 weeks											
Previous Close - Previous day's weighted price for daily volume											
Today's Close - Current day's weighted price for daily volume											
Change - Change in closing price from day to day											
Daily Vol. - Number of total shares traded today											
Div \$ - Dividends per share paid in the last 12 months											
P/E - Closing price divided by the last 12 month earnings											
(S) - 4-for-1 Stock Split - Effective Date 8/9/2007											
(S1) - 3-for-1 Stock Split - Effective Date 7/15/2007											
YIELD - last 12 month dividends divided by closing price											
Bid \$ - Buying price of Colina and Fidelity											
Ask \$ - Selling price of Colina and Fidelity											
Last Price - Last traded over-the-counter price											
Weekly Vol. - Trading volume of the prior week											
EPS \$ - A company's reported earnings per share for the last 12 mths											
NAV - Net Asset Value											
NM - Not Meaningful											
FINDEX - The Fidelity Bahamas Stock Index, January 1, 1994 = 100											
TO TRADE CALL: CFAL 242-502-7010 ROYALFIDELITY 242-356-7764 FG CAPITAL MARKETS 242-396-4000 COLONIAL 242-502-7525											

health

Sexual Compulsive Behaviour

By JEFFARAH GIBSON
Tribune Features Writer

Do you spend excessive time obsessing about sex or engaged in sexual activity? Do you frequently experience remorse, depression, or guilt about your sexual activity? Do you feel your sexual drive and activity is getting out of control? Do you use sex to escape from uncomfortable feelings such as anxiety, fear, anger, resentment, guilt?

If you have answered yes to most of these questions then you could have a sex addiction or sexually compulsive behaviour.

While sex is a natural part of human expression, when an individual loses control and their behaviour begins to affect their personal lives it becomes a major issue.

For many years, medical experts in the field have debated if sexually compulsive behaviour is an addiction, a psychosexual development disorder, an impulse control, a mood disorder or an obsessive compulsive disorder. Because sexual compulsion cannot be confined by one distinct cause, professionals in the field agree that sexually compulsive behaviour has a multitude of causes and presentations.

Treatment

Tribune Health spoke to sex therapist Maggie Bain who treats such disorders. She said people associate sexual promiscuity with sex addiction, however it is far from that.

"Sexually compulsive behaviour has nothing to do with promiscuity. Sexual compulsivity has all to do with the loss of control. People who are sexually compulsive find it difficult taming their sexual desires and their behaviour affects their lives.

Although it is unclear as to how this disorder develops www.mayoclinic.com provides possible causes for the disease.

"An imbalance of natural brain chemicals is a possible cause. High levels of certain chemicals in the brain (neurotransmitters) such as serotonin, dopamine and norepinephrine may be related to compulsive sexual behavior. These brain chemicals also help regulate mood. Sex hormone

LOSING CONTROL: While sex is a natural part of human expression, when an individual loses control and their behaviour begins to affect their personal lives it becomes a major issue.



Internet Photo

levels are also a factor. Androgens are sex hormones that occur naturally in both men and women. Although androgens also have a vital role in sexual desire, it's not clear exactly how they're related to compulsive sexual behavior. Certain diseases or health problems may cause damage to parts of the brain that affect sexual behaviour. Multiple sclerosis, epilepsy, Huntington's disease and dementia have all been associated with compulsive sexual behavior. In addition, treatment of Parkinson's disease with some dopamine agents medications may cause compulsive sexual behavior," the website stated.

Sexually compulsion is just like a drug or alcohol addiction. And as with any addiction people don't become addicted for the fun of things. Each addictive behaviour occurs because of an underlying issue.

Ms Bain explained that individuals are drawn to these addictive sexual behaviours because of the way it affects their emotions and the emotional pain the addict feels is removed momentarily she said.

"People who have sexually compulsive disorder don't realise that they have a problem and they don't seek help right away. It is only when they hit rock bottom and their entire world begins to crumble they begin to seek help for the issue," she told *Tribune Health*.

Signs

A few tell tale signs that this behaviour is on the rise is suggested by www.mayoclinic.com.

"Sexual impulses are intense and feel as if they're beyond control.

Even though a person feels driven to engage in certain sexual behaviors, they may or may not find the activity a source of pleasure or satisfaction. They use compulsive sexual behavior as an escape from other problems, such as loneliness, depression, anxiety or stress. They continue to engage in risky sexual behavior despite serious consequences, such as the potential for getting or giving someone else a sexually transmitted disease, the loss of important relationships, trouble at work or legal problems. They have trouble establishing and maintaining emotional closeness, even if they're married or in a committed relationship.

Some behaviours that are associated with sexual addiction includes compulsive masturbation (self-stimulation), multiple affairs (extra-marital affairs) multiple or anonymous

sexual partners and/or one-night stands, consistent use of pornography, unsafe sex, phone or computer sex (cybersex) prostitution or use of prostitutes, exhibitionism, obsessive dating through personal advertisement (watching others) and/or stalking sexual harassment, molestation/rape. However not all people who have sex addictions become offenders.

Ms Bain said: "compulsive sexual behaviour is one of the hardest addictions to get rid of. Sex is part of natural human expressions so its hard denying a person what comes almost natural to them. But with treatment they find a way of working things into their lives."

She said this treatment involves controlling the addictive behaviour and helping the person develop a healthy sexuality.

Dr Kirk Christie promotes mental health debate

THE first ever mental health debate will be held to argue the topic "All Persons In Society Have The Potential To Develop A Mental Health Disorder on Monday, November 15, at the Church of God Bernard Road at 10am" This historical event will be held in memory of the late Dr Curtis McMillan, the second Bahamian Minister of Health.

Dr Kirk Christie, Registrar Psychiatrist of the Sandilands Rehabilitation Centre and Co-Chair of the Mental Health Debate Team, provided an overview of this topic, as he encouraged the public to attend this historical debate between the major health care agencies in the countries; Sandilands Rehabilitation Centre, Rand Memorial Hospital, Department of Public Health and Princess Margaret Hospital.

Dr Christie defined mental illness as any disease or condition affecting the brain that influences the way a person thinks, feels, behaves, and or relates to others and to his or her surroundings.

He pointed out that although the symptoms of mental illness can range from mild to severe and are different depending on the type of mental illness, a person with an untreated mental illness is often unable to cope with life's daily routines and demands (loses their ability to function).

He continued that although the exact cause of most mental illnesses is unknown, it is becoming clear through

research that many of these conditions are caused by a combination or interaction of genetic, biological, psychological, and environmental factors.

He emphasised that One thing is certain, mental illness is not the result of personal weakness or a character defect, and recovery from a mental illness is not simply a matter of will and self-discipline.

Unfortunately, several mental illnesses are caused by a combination/interaction of factors and cannot be prevented. With the institution of treatment, the symptoms of these illnesses can be attenuated (lessened) and the individual can be returned to their state of normal functioning.

He then cited the examples of mental illness as, depression, anxiety disorders, schizophrenia, eating disorders and addictive behaviors. Mental illnesses are very common. He stated that in fact, they are more common than cancer, diabetes and heart disease

According to the US Surgeon General, an estimated 23 per cent of American adults (those ages 18 and older), about 44 million people and about 20 per cent of American children suffer from a mental disorder during a given year. Further, about 5 million Americans adults, and more than 5 million children and adolescents suffer from a serious mental condition (one that significantly interferes with functioning).

Dr Christie said that Mental



DEBATE: Dr Curtis O McMillan and Dr Kirk Christie (registrar at Sandilands Rehabilitation Centre).

health professionals in The Bahamas are treating members of the society for various disorders i.e. mood disorders; anxiety disorders; eating disorders; psychotic disorders and substance related disorders. It is unknown at this time whether the incidence/prevalence of mental illness is on the rise in The Bahamas. It is safe to say that many individuals (children; adolescents; young adults; older adults; middle-aged persons and geriatric persons) in the society are seeking the assistance of mental health professionals.

Objective research at the population level as opposed to solely relying on the treatment seeking population will have to be undertaken in order to determine whether or not mental illnesses are on the rise in The Bahamas.

Dr. Christie reminded that Mental illness does not discriminate. It can affect people of any age, income or education level, or cultural background. Although mental illness affects both males and females, certain conditions such as eating disorders tend to occur more often in females

and other disorders such as ADHD" attention-deficit-hyperactivity disorder (ADHD); more commonly occur in children.

He stressed that the debate seeks to sensitise the population as a whole about the types of mental illnesses that exist and to inform all members of the society about their potential to develop a mental disorder resulting from the interaction of specific biological, psychological and sociological factors present in their lives.

Further, the debate seeks

to address the issues of stigma in our setting by educating persons about the common mental disorders and dispelling several myths pertaining to mental illnesses and to the onset/development of the same.

Dr Christie extended an invitation to the nation to attend this debate that is guaranteed to educate the public about mental illness. These discussions will hopefully reduce the stigma that prevents countless Bahamians from accessing much needed mental health care services.

WOMAN

A different kind of loving

'The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education.' The wisdom of Martin Luther King Jr's words remain appropriate and timeless in their meaning. We can apply the sentiment to all aspects of our lives, and in turn become richer individuals. To be true to the title of this column, we need to be respectful and acknowledge all types of loving relationships. Just opening our eyes and minds to all human souls, and in particular to our fellow Bahamians, will enlarge our hearts and minds.

Injustices

When we have been brought up reading historical books describing particular unjust acts of discrimination and prejudice, we often fail to visualise a world full of many injustices. Minorities in many societies struggle up stream in order to survive. Whether it is race, religion, gender, ethnic or economic groups, a lack of acceptance is felt. Falling in line with the main stream may work for some, but suppressing our true identity has detrimental effects. Being recognised for our genuineness removes the veil of invisibility to a place of honor. To deny anyone would remove the mark of respect for being a living, breathing human being.



By MAGGIE BAIN

Learning about the tools required for effective communication within any relationship, includes 'putting yourself in another persons shoes'. This gives us a different vantage point to view our world and that, in it self, is often revealing. As long as the technique is taken seriously, the viewer usually gains a new perspective on the situation. It does not necessarily mean agreement, but there can still be a mutual respect to 'agree to disagree'. We are not all born naturally empathetic individuals, but that does not mean that we cannot learn how to become one.

Life has a way of teaching through the 'tough knocks' and the blows on the side of our head.' It is Mother Nature's way of getting our attention, and makes us sensitive to a particular situation by making it personal. Acknowledging an attraction to our own gender can bring on an identity crisis. Pressures prevail from all aspects of life and can often push stress levels out of control.

Questioning gender preference or orientation can tip many into depression and even suicide. Feeling

isolated and trapped produces an anxious tortured state that no one would willingly choose. Not only worrying about being ostracised, but also witnessing it, encourages secrecy and deception. Marrying and creating families under these circumstances takes its toll with complicated relationship problems. Repercussions of a deep unhappiness have a ripple affect all the way down to the children. Few could deny that 'acting out' in society is often directly related to our intimate relationships, and our personal happiness.

Power Play

In relationship therapy, we are reminded of the almost universal 'power play' that goes on within any couple. Whether it is to do with roles, finance, decision-making, or sex it is usually present to some degree. For couples whose lives run smoothly these dynamics may not seem so prevalent, but throw in a deep secret and everything becomes accentuated. When we consider each gender's common mannerisms, it should not surprise us that 'power play' problems become a recurring theme in gay relationships. Partnerships break down, as with any other, if roles are not worked out. The more we learn, the more we come to understand that all relationships require time, work, and energy. As with any change of behaviour 'will-

ingness to change' is the key.

Honesty is the key to healthy relationships. Living your life 'being true' is not only to be admired but shows immense courage. Living a life on the 'Down Low' shows a deep sense of shame and cowardliness. How many of us can say that we live a pure and authentic life? Many of us will reach the end of our life with some sadness, or feeling unfulfilled. Fear of the unknown, or 'what if's' holds us back from finding the true happiness that is meant for each one of us.

'I have decided to stick with love. Hate is too great a burden to bear.' Martin Luther King Jr's words resonate so clearly, even years past his death. Love is all about acceptance, compassion and sensitivity. Speaking it, donating to charities, expressing shock and horror to atrocities in the news are all acceptable reactions. But actually treating the person standing next to you with respect needs to be practiced on a daily basis.

• 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.

Liver diseases



By DR BASIL SANDS

THIS refers to the diseases or conditions that interfere with any of the liver's normal functions.

The liver is a large organ located in the most forward part of the abdomen, resting against the muscular portion (the diaphragm) between the abdomen and chest cavities. The liver is essential for life and performs over 100 important functions, such as detoxifying poisons, and drugs, metabolising fats, storing carbohydrates, manufacturing bile, plasma proteins and other substances, and assisting in blood clotting. The liver is essentially an organic filter that removes waste and detoxifies drugs and poison, and acts as a factory that manufactures and process nutrients and enzymes.

Food in the intestine is absorbed into the blood which then ferries specific components to the liver. There, sugars and fats are processed, amino acids are produced and certain vitamins and minerals are stored. The liver also manufactures hormones, important blood clotting enzymes and a substance called bile that allows fat to be absorbed.

Other substances such as drugs, that are carried by the blood are metabolized or altered, by the liver into other forms. Foreign materials, including viruses and bacteria or poisons, are filtered out in an effort to protect the rest of the body from damage. It is for this reason that an animal's liver is exposed to diseases and injury more than any other part of the body. Other conditions affecting liver function include birth defects, parasites and cancer. Liver disease is serious and often life threatening to your pet.

Liver disease is often difficult to detect until the illness becomes severe because there is an over abundance of liver tissues and the liver can partially regenerate itself. The signs of liver diseases vary with the degree and location of damage. However whatever their causes, the signs are remarkably similar. Commonly, liver diseases result in anorexia (lack of appetite), vomiting, diarrhea, weight loss, and lethargy. When bile backs up in the circulation it can turn light colored areas of the animal's body pale yellow or tea-color, this is called jaundice and is most easily seen in the white of the eyes, gums or inner surface of the ear flap. Increased pressure of the veins that drain the liver may result in ascites, which is an accumulation of fluid in the abdomen. The animal's abdomen will appear swollen or bloated. Hemorrhages are another sign of advanced liver disease, with bleeding into the stomach, intestines and urinary tract.

Various blood tests are necessary to discover the extent and nature of liver damage. In many cases, surgical removal of small piece of liver tissue (liver biopsy) is the only way to diagnose the type of liver disease.

Treatment depends on the specific causes of the disease. Some types of liver diseases can only be treated in the hospital, while others are treated on an out patient basis. Some liver diseases can be cured, while in others the goal of treatment is to control the disease.

Chronic Hepatitis is the most common liver disease in dogs. Feline Hepatic Lipidosis also called fatty liver disease is the most common liver disease in cats. Over weight cats are at highest risk for this condition, and the definitive sign is when an obese cat suddenly stops eating. For reasons not completely understood, fat is moved into the liver and becomes trapped, resulting in compromised liver functions.

Chronic hepatitis cases are idiopathic, which means that no definitive cause can be determined. When a cause can be determined, it is often due to another generalised disease such as cancer, kidney disease or an infection such as Leptospirosis. Treatment consists primarily of supportive care, (like I.V fluids, antibiotics etc). Prognosis depends on the cause, but usually is not too good. About 30 per cent of animals suffering from hepatitis will die within one week of diagnosis, despite treatment.

A congenital defect may result in a portosystemic shunt, which is an abnormal connection of a vein into the liver that should normally close off shortly after the newborn is born. Surgical correction is the treatment of choice for some types of shunts.

A diet with a non meat protein places less strain on the liver and gives it a chance to heal. However, it is best to follow your vet's advice since he or she is most familiar with your dog's diagnoses, clinical condition and dietary needs. There is no way to prevent congenial liver problem, or to anticipate some immune or bacterial conditions that affect the liver. However, in cats you can reduce the risk of Feline Hepatic Lipidosis by keeping your cat slim. Also protecting your pets from poisons will help prevent toxicity induced liver damage.

GREEN SCENE

By Gardener Jack

Tomatoes

TOMATOES are probably the most popular vegetable normally grown by the regular backyard gardener. The more popular a vegetable is the more varieties are available.

The selection of tomatoes available is astronomic so we may consider categorising them in order to make the best choice.

Tomatoes originated in the foothills of the Peruvian Andes and were initially small and yellow.

Their progress from tiny fruits smaller than a cherry tomato to the two-pound beefsteaks we are now used to is quite remarkable.

All tomatoes have one of two different growth habits: determinate and indeterminate.

Determinate tomatoes are generally upright and bushy. Once they have produced a single harvest they die. Indeterminate tomatoes are usually vinous and sprawling, almost impossible to stake.

They continue to grow after the first harvest and keep producing fruits until they are pulled up.

It may seem as though indeterminate tomatoes are the only way to go but the yield goes down considerably after a while and a quarter of your precious garden may be taken up nurturing a single tomato. Farmers tend to grow determinate tomatoes, harvest and pull them and then set out a new crop.

The standard round tomato as big as a baseball is called salad and comes in red and yellow varieties. Yellow tomatoes tend to be lower in acid and are therefore milder and sweeter. If you like Earl Grey tea you will love yellow tomatoes.

Beefsteak tomatoes are really several tomatoes fused together.

This is easily seen from the flower and from cutting the fruit in half crosswise. Beefsteak tomatoes grow large but tend to be wasteful in use as both ends have to be cut away substantially in order to achieve even sandwich slices.

Italian, plum or paste tomatoes are known for their high productivity and superiority when it comes to cooking because the fruits have low moisture content. Roma and San Marzano are prolific bearers and at least one of them should be in every garden.

Cherry tomatoes are small and very reliable producers. They can be pear or grape shaped as well as round and vary in size from the size of a pea to the size of a golf ball. The flavour of cherry tomatoes is usually more intense than that of larger tomatoes.

You may find, however, that the flavour of heirloom tomatoes is just as intense. Heirloom tomatoes are open pollinated and their seeds can be used for subsequent crops. All varieties of tomato have heirloom counterparts that have been around for a long time and have only survived because of their excellence. The downside is that heirloom tomatoes are often scanty producers.

Tomato seeds can be sown directly into the ground after October but at this time of year are usually sown in pots containing potting soil to give them a strong start with some degree of shade during the late afternoon.

I like to grow mine in individual pots and transplant them when they



POPULAR: TOMATOES come in many varieties and the home gardener should choose those that are most appropriate.

are about six inches tall.

The depth of soil is not critical to tomatoes as long as there is plenty of room for the roots to branch sideways. Tomatoes are heavy feeders and need to be placed into fertile soil. Side dressings of vegetable fertiliser can be sprinkled around or you can use time-release granules worked into the soil before transplanting. In addition you can fer-

tilise your plants weekly with a liquid fertiliser.

Once you have transplanted your seedlings you must turn your mind to the next crop and sow more seeds, especially if you are growing determinate tomatoes. It is no fun having a gorgeous glut one month and having to buy from the store the next.

Most tomatoes need staking and

there is a wide range of commercial offerings. I tend to favour broom and mop sticks. Once my wife has outworn a broom or mop I break off the handle, sharpen it with a machete, and then soak it in copper sulphate to make it rot proof.

Hammered into the ground these sticks offer substantial support and keep the ripening fruits well above ground.

WOMAN

Tough road

FROM page 12

means to me everyday and he knows that I love him."

Even though she is doing a rather excellent job she said sometimes she still finds herself wondering why her baby's father did what he did.

"Sometimes I say to myself what did my son do to make him not care. I mean he is a child, he didn't ask to be here and it hurts me to see what we created and his father doesn't care about him. On his birthday his father didn't even come to see him and I made a promise to myself that I will do whatever his father isn't there to do.

"I don't think it should be like this. My son should have a father who cares about him. I am not a man so how will I teach a boy to be man. When my son comes to me and ask me things that only men know about what will I tell him," Ms Hepburn said.

However, she said nothing gives her more joy than her knowing that her son has at least one parent who shows him unconditional love.

She also took the time to give a little advice to mothers who might be in the same situation.

"It will not be easy, because bringing up children is one of the most difficult jobs in the world. But show your child as much love as you possible can because love is the key. Regardless of the situation never allow what you are going through to interfere with your parenting, your child has nothing to do with what you are going through. And if it is a boy you are bringing up alone, allow maybe uncles or male family members to be apart of his life. And when life throws lemons at you make lemonade that's what I did."

Less invasive surgery OK for breast cancer

By MARIA CHENG
AP Medical Writer

Some breast cancer patients may do just as well with a less invasive surgery to remove selected lymph nodes rather than the aggressive operation normally used to remove them all, a new study says.

In the biggest trial yet to compare the two procedures, North American researchers found early breast cancer patients don't need the more interventionist surgery to live longer.

Most patients with such cancer have surgery to remove the disease. Doctors sometimes decide to get rid of all the lymph nodes to better control the cancer because if the disease spreads, it usually goes first to the nearby lymph nodes. Experts also think there is a relationship between the number of lymph nodes affected and how aggressive a cancer is.

But the invasive operation, an axillary-lymph node dissection, often comes with nasty side effects like nerve damage and reduced use of the arms and shoulders.

Doctors can use another surgery to remove only the first set of lymph nodes, or the sentinel lymph nodes under the arm, but many physicians have assumed the more aggressive surgery gives women a better shot at staying alive.

The study dealt only with victims of early breast cancer, not women needing a mastectomy.

US and Canadian scientists monitored 5,611 early breast cancer patients whose disease had not yet spread to their lymph nodes. About half were assigned to get both surgeries. The other half had operations to remove only some of their

lymph nodes. Most patients in both groups also received other treatments like radiotherapy.

After tracking the patients for eight years, doctors didn't find any difference in the patients' survival rates.

Among the 1,975 women who got both surgeries, 1,660 were alive after eight years. Among the 2,011 who only got a few lymph nodes removed in the less invasive operation, 1,675 were alive.

The study was paid for by the US Public Health Service, the National Cancer Institute and the Department of Health and Human Services. It was published Tuesday in the journal *Lancet Oncology*.

"This is good for patients because this is a less aggressive technique which could mean fewer patients develop unpleasant side effects (like major tissue swelling)," said Meg McArthur, a senior policy officer at the British charity Breakthrough Breast Cancer. She was not linked to the paper.

John Benson of Cambridge University called it a "seminal" paper that should help treat most early stage breast cancer patients. He also was not linked to the research.

"It will now be difficult to justify (using aggressive surgery) when there is no marked difference in survival," he said, adding there may be some cases where using the more invasive procedure is preferable, such as if patients have larger tumors or more advanced disease.

Benson said all breast cancer patients need to be carefully monitored after their surgeries. He noted in the study that of the women who had the less invasive procedure, 14 had cancer return in the region of their lymph nodes compared to eight of those who had the more aggressive surgery.



FASHION WEEK: A model presents an outfit by designer Paul Smith, during his show at London Fashion Week, in London, Monday, Sept. 20, 2010. The designers are showing their Spring/Summer 2011 collections.

Fashion

FROM page 12

obscured by a piece of metal scaffolding.

But Smith said the pared-down look was what the public wanted.

"People are looking for clothes they can add to their wardrobes without spending too much money," he said.

The public seems to bear him out. Smith told the AP that sales were up significantly, while cards distributed to the audience announced the opening of a new womenswear shop at Claridges.

Smith's show is one of the main draws of London's Fashion Week, a five-day clothing-and-celebrity extravaganza which features such names as Vivienne Westwood and Christopher Kane. Buyers and the media are still waiting to see collections from Burberry's Christopher Bailey, Jonathan Saunders, Stella McCartney and Scottish style icon Pringle.

THE WEATHER REPORT

INSURANCE MANAGEMENT (BAHAMAS) LIMITED
INSURANCE BROKERS & AGENTS

5-DAY FORECAST

Location	Today	Tonight	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Orlando	High: 92° F / 33° C Low: 72° F / 22° C	High: 87° F Low: 74° F	High: 89° F Low: 76° F	High: 86° F Low: 76° F	High: 89° F Low: 75° F	High: 87° F Low: 76° F
Tampa	High: 91° F / 33° C Low: 74° F / 23° C	High: 87° F Low: 74° F	High: 89° F Low: 76° F	High: 86° F Low: 76° F	High: 89° F Low: 75° F	High: 87° F Low: 76° F
West Palm Beach	High: 89° F / 32° C Low: 78° F / 26° C	High: 87° F Low: 74° F	High: 89° F Low: 76° F	High: 86° F Low: 76° F	High: 89° F Low: 75° F	High: 87° F Low: 76° F
Freeport	High: 93° F / 32° C Low: 73° F / 23° C	High: 87° F Low: 74° F	High: 89° F Low: 76° F	High: 86° F Low: 76° F	High: 89° F Low: 75° F	High: 87° F Low: 76° F
Nassau	High: 87° F / 31° C Low: 74° F / 23° C	High: 87° F Low: 74° F	High: 89° F Low: 76° F	High: 86° F Low: 76° F	High: 89° F Low: 75° F	High: 87° F Low: 76° F
San Salvador	High: 90° F / 32° C Low: 74° F / 23° C	High: 87° F Low: 74° F	High: 89° F Low: 76° F	High: 86° F Low: 76° F	High: 89° F Low: 75° F	High: 87° F Low: 76° F

ALMANAC
Statistics are for Nassau through 2 p.m. yesterday

Temperature	High	Low	Normal High	Normal Low
Today	88° F / 31° C	75° F	87° F / 31° C	75° F / 24° C
As of 2 p.m. yesterday	89° F	76° F	87° F / 31° C	75° F / 24° C
Year to date	26.23°	26.09°	87° F / 31° C	75° F / 24° C
Normal year to date	26.09°	26.09°	87° F / 31° C	75° F / 24° C

UV INDEX TODAY
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11+
LOW MODERATE HIGH V. HIGH EXT.

TIDES FOR NASSAU

Time	High	Low
Today	6:12 a.m. 2.9 6:29 p.m. 3.0	12:11 a.m. 0.9 12:24 p.m. 0.7
Wednesday	6:49 a.m. 3.0 7:05 p.m. 3.0	12:45 a.m. 0.7 1:03 p.m. 0.7
Thursday	7:25 a.m. 3.1 7:40 p.m. 3.0	1:18 a.m. 0.6 1:41 p.m. 0.6
Friday	8:03 a.m. 3.2 8:14 p.m. 2.9	1:50 a.m. 0.6 2:16 p.m. 0.6
Saturday	8:35 a.m. 3.2 8:49 p.m. 2.8	2:23 a.m. 0.6 2:55 p.m. 0.7
Sunday	9:11 a.m. 3.2 9:28 p.m. 2.7	2:56 a.m. 0.6 3:24 p.m. 0.7
Monday	9:50 a.m. 3.2 10:03 p.m. 2.6	3:30 a.m. 0.7 4:15 p.m. 0.9

SUN AND MOON

Event	Time
Sunrise	6:58 a.m.
Sunset	7:08 p.m.
Moonrise	6:02 p.m.
Moonset	5:26 a.m.

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INSURANCE MANAGEMENT TRACKING MAP

MARINE FORECAST

Location	WINDS	WAVES	VISIBILITY	WATER TEMPS.
ABACO	Today: NE at 12-25 Knots Wednesday: E at 7-14 Knots	6-10 Feet 6-10 Feet	10 Miles 10 Miles	84° F 84° F
ANDROS	Today: NE at 8-16 Knots Wednesday: E at 6-12 Knots	1-3 Feet 2-4 Feet	10 Miles 6 Miles	86° F 86° F
CAT ISLAND	Today: E at 10-20 Knots Wednesday: E at 4-8 Knots	5-9 Feet 4-8 Feet	6 Miles 10 Miles	85° F 85° F
CROOKED ISLAND	Today: ENE at 8-16 Knots Wednesday: E at 10-20 Knots	3-6 Feet 3-6 Feet	6 Miles 6 Miles	84° F 84° F
ELEUTHERA	Today: ENE at 10-20 Knots Wednesday: E at 10-20 Knots	6-10 Feet 5-9 Feet	7 Miles 10 Miles	85° F 85° F
FREEPORT	Today: ENE at 10-20 Knots Wednesday: E at 10-20 Knots	3-6 Feet 3-6 Feet	10 Miles 10 Miles	85° F 85° F
GREAT EXUMA	Today: E at 10-20 Knots Wednesday: E at 6-12 Knots	1-3 Feet 1-3 Feet	10 Miles 10 Miles	85° F 85° F
GREAT INAGUA	Today: ENE at 8-16 Knots Wednesday: E at 10-20 Knots	4-7 Feet 4-7 Feet	6 Miles 5 Miles	85° F 84° F
LONG ISLAND	Today: E at 8-16 Knots Wednesday: E at 4-8 Knots	1-3 Feet 2-4 Feet	7 Miles 10 Miles	85° F 85° F
MAYAGUANA	Today: ENE at 7-14 Knots Wednesday: E at 10-20 Knots	6-10 Feet 6-10 Feet	10 Miles 5 Miles	84° F 84° F
NASSAU	Today: ENE at 10-20 Knots Wednesday: E at 10-20 Knots	3-5 Feet 3-5 Feet	10 Miles 10 Miles	85° F 85° F
SAN SALVADOR	Today: E at 8-16 Knots Wednesday: E at 4-8 Knots	1-3 Feet 2-4 Feet	6 Miles 10 Miles	85° F 85° F
RAGGED ISLAND	Today: E at 10-20 Knots Wednesday: E at 6-12 Knots	3-6 Feet 3-6 Feet	10 Miles 10 Miles	85° F 85° F

INSURANCE MANAGEMENT (BAHAMAS) LIMITED. INSURANCE BROKERS & AGENTS



Mosley and Mora in 12-round draw...

See page 10

Richardson 'happy' with Braves in Triple-A action

By BRENT STUBBS
Senior Sports Reporter
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Although he came close to cracking in the major league, Antoan Richardson said he was quite content with finishing the year in Triple-A play with the Gwinnett Braves.

The Grand Bahama native was called up from the Mississippi Braves in the Southern League to complete his year with the Gwinnett Braves.

It was a move that Richardson welcomed, but one that he took in stride.

"I'm grateful for the opportunity to get to Triple A, but at the same time, I think you have to keep in perspective what your ultimate goal is," Richardson said.

"The ultimate goal is to get to the big leagues, so while I'm definitely happy for the opportunity to get this close, it's not the ultimate goal, so I don't want to lose focus. I want to keep my eyes on the prize and keep working hard until I get to where I ultimately want to be."

On September 6, Richardson and the Braves played their last game in the International South division after they failed to make the playoffs.

Having been promoted to Triple-A for the final seven games of the season with the Braves, Richardson posted a .280 batting average as he went 7-for-25, drove in two runs and scored another.

The 5-foot-8 outfielder also walked five times, struck out nine times and stole three bases. He had his best game with the Braves on September 3 when he had a perfect 3-for-3 plate appearance with a RBI.

Reflecting on the season, Richardson said it was probably one of the wildest that he has encountered since he was drafted by the San Francisco Giants with the 35th pick of the draft in 2005 after he graduated from Vanderbilt University.

"I started camp with the Braves (after being traded by the Giants), they let me go after spring training. I went to Independent Ball and they called me back and going back and doing well, I went to Double-A," Richardson said.

"I moved up to Triple-A at the end of the season. So it was good. But I never lost confidence in myself. I just kept persevering. Sometimes when you have adversities, you can't hold it against anyone. You just have to get through it."

For Richardson, it was a year that he won't forget, but one that he will cherish because he was able to weather the storm and get to the top of the minor league.

"You just can't lose focus. You

But Grand Bahama native doesn't lose sight of the 'big leagues'



PLAY ACTION: Grand Bahama native Antoan Richardson says he was quite content with finishing the year with the Gwinnett Braves. Here, he can be seen in Triple-A play action.

have to deal with your adversities and not hold it against anybody," he told the younger players looking up to him.

"Sometimes things happen that you don't enjoy, but you have to deal with it. Along this line, some tough things happened, but those are the things that I have to go through to get to the major league."

Now into the off season, Richardson said he's taking a few weeks to recuperate from the long, exhausting season before he starts playing winter baseball just to stay in shape and competitive for spring training.

"I'm thinking about playing either in the Dominican Republic, Venezuela, Puerto Rico, Mexico or Colombia," he projected.

"I'm looking at one of those five. They're not affiliated with the Atlanta Braves, but they are affili-

ated with Major League Baseball. So it's going to be a good opportunity for me to continue to get better.

"I'm either going to be working out or playing baseball. I'm just going to try and stay in shape one way or the other because I want to be ready for next season."

Spring training won't be until late February or early March, but depending on what decision he makes, Richardson said he will take a short break in between to come home for some "rest and good ol' home cooking in November."

While Richardson is just one step away from making it to the big league, he is being followed closely by second baseman Albert Cartwright, who is playing for the Houston Astros' affiliated Corpus Christi Hooks in the Double-A Texas League.

"He's a good friend of mine and I believe that Albert has a very good chance of making it all the way," said Richardson, who played with Cartwright in the Freedom Farm League.

"I know he's a lot stronger than I was where he is, so I'm really happy for him. I really think he has an awesome opportunity with the Astros. I definitely see him making that jump (to Triple-A), if not next year in two years."

If they can both stay injury free, Richardson said he can't see why the Bahamas can't celebrate again with another two Bahamians playing in the major leagues, hopefully against each other in the very near future.

Surprisingly, they will both celebrate their birthdays in October. While Richardson will turn 28 on October 8, Cartwright will be 24 on October 31.

Who won the men's pennant in the NPSA?

By BRENT STUBBS
Senior Sports Reporter
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WHO won the men's pennant in the New Providence Softball Association?

That is the million-dollar question that everybody is trying to figure out at the Banker's Field, Baillou Hills Sporting Complex.

League standings show the defending champions Commando Security Truckers having completed their regular season with the best win-loss record.

But both the Dorin United Hitmen and the Y-II Shipping New Breed claim that they have the rights to play for the pennant and not the Truckers. They will clash in their final head-to-head meeting tonight.

Apparently, the executives have had to change the records for New Breed and the Truckers after they were in violation of a player residency clause.

Based on the rule, a player must be a resident working or living in New Providence in order to play in the league. However, both New Breed and the Truckers utilized an illegal player.

While the ruling was enforced and New Breed's and Truckers' Fred Cornish were not allowed to continue to play, the two teams' records should have been turned around.

On top of that, John's Buccaneers also experienced a problem, although they are not eligible for the playoffs. One of their players, Culbert 'Buster' Evans, was hit with a five-game suspension.

But Evans was allowed to play this weekend and while he helped the Buccaneers to win the game over the Hitmen, it was played under protest.

The protest was apparently awarded to the Hitmen.

As for the team standings, president Loretta Maycock indicated that while there was a dispute that could result in the final placing, they have informed the teams that they would wait until the end of the regular season to clear up all disputes.

So while the women's division has had a smooth sailing with the defending champions Pineapple Air Wildcats holding off the Proper Care Pool Lady Sharks for the pennant, the men's pennant is still up in the air.

The first round, best-of-five playoffs was originally set to start on Thursday but Maycock said that may have to be postponed until the weekend or early next week because they still have some more make-up games to be played.

Maycock said they intend to look at the games left, which were rained out, and make a determination on whether or not they will have to be played, based on the standings of the teams involved.

Atlantis Resort Hotel Softball League

Casino Big Dogs blow out Messa Grille 22-0

THE Atlantis Resort Hotel Softball League got started yesterday at the Banker's Field, Baillou Hills Sporting Complex, with two shutouts posted.

In the opening game, the Casino Big Dogs white-washed the Messa Grille 22-0.

Jamal 'Sarge' Johnson went 3-for-4 with six RBI and three runs. He had a three-run home run and double. Everette Neely had a perfect 4-for-4 day with three RBI and two runs. He had a two-run homer.

Michael Bain got the

Ocean Club beats Banquet 20-0

win and Lorenzo Lockhart suffered the loss.

In the feature game, the Ocean Club blanked Banquet 20-0.

Greg Gardiner was 2-for-4 with six RBI and four runs. He also had a grand slam homer. Troy Bodie had a perfect 3-for-3 day with three RBI and two runs.

T'Ron Higgs was the winning pitcher. Adderick Jones suffered the loss.

CAFL to kick off regular season in mid-October

THE Commonwealth American Football League (CAFL) is set to begin its 2010 season over the weekend of October 16-17 at the D W Davis playing field with some noted developments.

Ricardo Barry will serve as the new chairman of the council. He will be assisted by Shane Albury. The secretary is Obie Roberts, the treasurer is Carl Campbell and the public relations officer is Lawrence Hepburn.

Noticeably missing is Michael Foster, who has resigned to focus on the High School Football Programme via the association called IAFA. Foster, who celebrated his 50th birthday a few weeks ago amidst many friends and well wishers, has committed to playing at 50 and so he will spend one more year as quarterback of the pros.

His absence from the council will be missed and the other members will have to work much harder with keeping the interest and focus of the CAFL.

This year, in order to correct some of the conflict of interest issues in the CAFL and to initiate a more stronger management team, the CAFL has elected Dr Lynwood Brown as its new commissioner.

Dr Brown served several years ago just before the league fell apart under former president Curtis Newbold, who was enlisted in the Royal Bahamas Police Force.

When contacted about his interest to serve again, Dr Brown welcomed the idea and expressed a profound desire to help build the vision and mission of the CAFL.

Dr Brown brings refresh-

ing leadership and energy to the office of commissioner. He will select a deputy and along with the referees, conduct training and development for this group of men.

The training will commence in short order, which they hope will improve the officiating of the game tremendously.

This year, the league is expected to attract some five teams, which have all paid their fees and the majority of them are ready to play today. Included in the list is the Sunburners, who will be returning and are conducting their practices at Windsor Field.

The Kingdom Warriors said they will not be able to participate this year and we shall miss their presence in the league. Much is due to the lack of financing and sponsorship but they have pledged

to return in the near future.

This year's opener is expected to be a match-up between the Jets and the Pros, in what was scheduled to have been the championship game last year. That game was never played as the two teams could not commit to a date to play. As a result, the council governing the sport decided to cancel the game and no champions were crowned last year. The game is slated to begin at 2pm and prior to that, a grill-off is expected to take place in the parking lot beginning at 11am. Cash prizes will be given and it promises to be a fun-filled tailgate party all day long.

Part proceeds from the grill out will be donated to the Ranfurly Home for Children and fans are asked to bring gifts and items to be donated to the children's home.

INTERNATIONAL SPORTS

Mosley, Mora in 12-round draw

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Sugar Shane Mosley wanted a victory that would earn him another big-money fight. Sergio Mora wanted to re-establish himself as an elite boxer.

Neither left Staples Center satisfied after their 12-round draw Saturday night.

The junior middleweight bout was an anticlimactic end to a solid card that featured spectacular knockout wins by Victor Ortiz, Saul "Canelo" Alvarez and Daniel Ponce De Leon.

In a sometimes dull fight, the 39-year-old Mosley (46-6-1, 39 KOs) didn't get redemption for his one-sided loss to Floyd Mayweather Jr. in May, and Mora (22-1-2, 6 KOs) fell short of his biggest victory.

Both fighters were booed by the crowd, which chanted "Canelo! Canelo!" — the nickname of the rising 20-year-old Mexican star — during the main event.

"We both fought hard," Mosley said. "It was good fight, a good decision."

The fight was very difficult to score, with judge Kermit Bayless calling it 115-113 for Mora, David Denkin giving Mosley a 116-112 edge, and Lou Moret ruling it even at 114-114. The scores at press row were equally divided, from a six-point victory for Mosley to a four-point win for



POUND FOR POUND: Shane Mosley (left) takes a punch from Sergio Mora in the seventh round of Saturday's match in Los Angeles.

Mora.

Mosley had an edge in the CompuBox punchstats, landing 161 of 522 punches to 93 of 508 for Mora.

Mora, who held the 154-pound title in 2008, said he actually let up because he thought he was winning the fight down the stretch.

"I should've listened to my corner," he said. "They were telling me that it was a close fight. I thought I was winning, so I didn't fight as hard because I have respect for Shane. I didn't want to hurt him."

Mosley was the aggressor

from the beginning, but had a difficult time landing clean punches because Mora is a standout defensive fighter. The former 154-pound titleholder consistently danced out of harm's way or tied up Mosley when he got inside.

Mora threw many fewer punches than Mosley but landed more clean shots, giving him several rounds.

Neither fighter hurt the other or even had a particularly big round, making it even more difficult to separate them.

Before the main event, junior welterweight contender



JAWBREAKER: Shane Mosley (right) lands a punch to the face of Sergio Mora in the 10th round.

(AP Photos)

Ortiz (28-2-1, 22 KOs) took a round to feel out Vivian Harris (29-5-1, 19 KOs) before unloading, stopping Harris early in the third round after knocking him down three times in the second.

Ortiz was too quick and sharp for his aging opponent. He landed a right hook and then a quick right uppercut to knock down Harris 45 seconds into the third round, with referee Raul Caiz waving off the fight right when Harris hit the canvas.

Ortiz's handlers have been talking to WBO titleholder Timothy Bradley, and Ortiz likes the idea of facing the winner of the Dec. 11 fight

between WBA champion Amir Khan and Marcos Maidana, who knocked out Ortiz in the sixth round last year at Staples Center.

Harris, a former titleholder from New York, is 1-3 with one no-contest in his last five fights.

Earlier, Alvarez had a spectacular third-round knockout of veteran Carlos Baldomir.

Alvarez (34-0-1, 26 KOs) hurt Baldomir (45-13-6, 14 KOs) with a number of punches toward the end of the final round before a straight left put the Argentine on his face.

Baldomir, who had failed to go the distance only once

before, was able to get to his feet, but was too wobbly to continue.

Baldomir was a good test for the 20-year-old star from Guadalajara because of his experience and awkward style, but Alvarez was much quicker than Baldomir, and he patiently outboxed his 39-year-old foe.

Baldomir, who has one of the best chins in boxing, took most of the big shots, but was slowly worn down.

Ponce de Leon (40-2, 33 KOs) also stopped Antonio Escalante (23-3, 15 KOs) with a single right hook at 2:40 of the third round in a 12-round featherweight bout.



WICKET CLAIM: Pakistan's Umar Gul (left) claims the wicket of England's Stuart Broad during the fourth one day international cricket match at Lord's cricket ground in London on Monday.

(AP Photo)

ICC launches fresh England-Pakistan fix investigation

By RIZWAN ALI
AP Sports Writer

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Pakistan's cricket team faced new allegations of match-fixing Saturday after the International Cricket Council launched an investigation into Friday's one-day international game against England, just three weeks after one of the sport's biggest betting scandals emerged on the tour.

The ICC said the latest probe was based on information passed on by British tabloid The Sun, which suggested a scoring pattern in Pakistan's innings was prearranged.

"A source informed The Sun newspaper that a certain scoring pattern would emerge during certain stages of the match and, broadly speaking, that information appeared to be correct," ICC chief executive Haroon Lorgat said in a statement.

The investigation comes on the heels of a previous fixing scandal on Pakistan's tour, when a player agent allegedly received money for organizing players to bowl no-balls, akin to a balk in baseball, at prearranged times in a match against England last month so as to fix spot betting markets.

Pakistan's victory over England on Friday had initially shifted some of the attention away from the previous fixing allegations. But even before the match started at the Oval, the International Cricket Council was being told by The Sun that bookmakers in India and Dubai knew details of scoring patterns.

The Sun said it had passed on the information after it received details of calls between a Dubai-based match fixer and a Delhi bookie.

"Cricket chiefs then watched as Pakistan's score mirrored the target that bookies had been told in advance by a fixer," the newspaper said.

The Sun's report said that "it is not thought that the overall result was fixed, only scoring rates in parts of Pakistan's innings."

The ICC said it will work with The Sun and sources to "ensure full truth surrounding this match is ascertained."

The latest allegations put the viability of the two remaining matches in the series in doubt, with The England and Wales Cricket board



UMAR GUL celebrates after claiming the wicket of England's Stuart Broad.

(AP Photo)

holding an emergency meeting to discuss the situation on Saturday.

The ECB said it has asked the ICC for "assurances that ICC does not have evidence which could result in either charges or suspension of players" before the end of the series.

It added that it has been assured that no England players or members of management are under suspicion.

London police said they are not involved with the investigation.

The Pakistan Cricket Board said it was extremely "perturbed" by the recent allegations and complained that the ICC had not informed them of the investigation before the newspaper report was published.

"(The PCB) only came to know through media that investigations will be conducted by the ICC," the Pakistani body said in a statement. "PCB feels that ICC should repose more confidence in its members."

The earlier fixing allegations resulted in the ICC suspending Salman Butt, Mohammad Asif and Mohammad Amir, while a fourth Pakistan player, Wahab Riaz, was questioned by Scotland Yard last week.

London police said Friday that evidence had been passed on to prosecutors to consider charges.

That initial fixing controversy had triggered calls from some quarters for the remainder of the tour to be called off. The PCB's director general Javed Miandad wanted the entire team changed for the one-day series.

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LOCAL/ INTERNATIONAL SPORTS

**SPORTS
IN BRIEF**

NPSA awards deserving players

**CRICKET
BCA ACTION**

PLAY in the Bahamas Cricket Association's Seven-A-Side Tournament kicked off over the weekend at Haynes Oval with the following results posted:

**Police Royals vs
Rising Stars**

Rising Stars batted first and scored 153 runs all out in 15 overs. Whitcliff Atkinson had 53 runs and Gregory Irvin 67 runs for Rising Stars.

Police Royals responded with 155 runs for the loss of three wickets in 13.5 overs. Jonathon Barry scored 54 runs and Greg Taylor Jr had 49 runs for the Police.

**St Agnes vs
Dorsey Park Boyz**

St Agnes batted first and scored 104 runs all out in 13.1 overs. Robert Campbell and Odain Tucker scored 37 runs.

Dorsey Park Boyz had 105 runs for the loss of three wickets in 12.2 overs. Andy Ford had 50 runs not out for the Dorsey Park Boyz.

**VOLLEYBALL
NPVA UNDERWAY**

THE New Providence Volleyball Association (NPVA) kicked off its 2010 season on Sunday at the D W Davis Gymnasium.

In the women's division, the five-time defending champions Scottsdale Vixens picked up where they left off last year with a 27-25, 25-20, 23-25 and 25-23 decision over runners-up Johnson's Lady Truckers.

In the men's division, it was another showdown between last year's finalists with the defending champions Intruders holding off runners-up Scotiabank Defenders 27-25, 25-23, 21-25, 23-25 and 17-15.

Action is slated to continue Wednesday night with the Lady Hornets taking on the Junior Cougars in the women's 7:30pm opener. The men's 8:30pm feature contest will be between the Police Crimestoppers and the Technicians.

The league will comprise of the Vixens, Truckers, College of the Bahamas, Lady Hornets, Lady Techs and the Junior Cougars in the women's division.

The men's division will feature the Intruders, the Defenders, the Technicians, Da Basement, College of the Bahamas and the Junior Development Boys.



WHILE they continued their regular season play Saturday night at the Banker's Field, the New Providence Softball Association (NPSA) awarded trophies to its deserving players (shown on left).

The awards were given to players in the 2009 regular season and All-Star game and the 2010 All-Star game. Here's a look at some of the individual awards presented from the 2009 season:

Women's Division

- Most Valuable Player - Nerissa Seymour (Swingers)
- Batting Champ with a .512 average - Nerissa Seymour (Swingers)
- Most Hits (22) - Nerissa Seymour (Swingers)
- Most Runs (26) - Nerissa Seymour (Swingers)
- Most Home Runs with two - Dawn Forbes (Proper Care)
- Most RBI - Thela Johnson (Proper Care)
- Most stolen Bases with nine - Sharnell Symonette (Proper Care)
- Most wins 8-0 record - Mary Edgcombe-Sweeting (Wildcats)
- Best ERA - Alex Taylor (Proper Care)
- Most BB with 10 - Candice Smith (Wildcats)
- Most IP (40 or more) - Desiree Coakley (Bommer G)
- Most Ks - Desiree Coakley (Bommer G)

Men's Division

- MVP - Edney Bethel (Dorsey Park)
- Batting Champ .484 Ave - Edney Bethel (Dorsey Park)
- Most Hits 30 - Edney Bethel (Dorsey Park)
- Best ERA 40 or more IP 0.33 - Edney Bethel (Dorsey Park)
- Most wins 20-1 - Edney Bethel (Dorsey Park)
- Most Ip (40 or more) 128 - Edney Bethel (Dorsey Park)
- Most Ks 300 - Edney Bethel (Dorsey Park)
- Most RBI 17 - Jamiko Sands (Stingrays)
- Most Home Runs five - Hosea Hilton (Outlaws)
- Most Stolen Bases 12 - Van Johnson (Truckers)
- Most Runs - Van Johnson (Truckers)



INTO WORLD GROUP: Belgian Davis Cup team member Steve Darcis (second right) is congratulated by fellow members Ruben Bemelmans (right) Olivier Rochus (second left) and team captain Reginald Willems (center) after his win against Australia's Carsten Ball that puts Belgium through to the Davis Cup World Group next year.

(AP Photo)

Belgium wins to return to Davis Cup World Group

CAIRNS, Australia (AP) — Steve Darcis beat Carsten Ball 7-6 (4), 6-3, 6-4 and Belgium rallied to beat Australia 3-2 on Monday in a rain-interrupted playoff to return to the Davis Cup World Group.

Australia led 2-1 after winning the doubles match on Saturday, but struggled after former No. 1 Lleyton Hewitt injured his wrist and withdrew Sunday from the reverse singles.

Hewitt, who won his opening singles match and helped win the doubles to set a career record for most Davis Cup wins by an Australian, was replaced by Peter Luczak in a singles match that started Sunday and finished Monday.

Olivier Rochus beat Luczak 7-6 (8), 6-4, 6-7 (0), 7-6 (2) to level the playoff at 2-2 before Darcis clinched it for Belgium.



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INTERNATIONAL SPORTS

No passing, no Ben, yet motivated Steelers are 2-0

By ALAN ROBINSON
AP Sports Writer

PITTSBURGH (AP) — No, that's not Mean Joe Greene, nasty Jack Lambert or give-not-an-inch Mel Blount out there playing defense for the motivated Pittsburgh Steelers. It only seems like it's 1976 again.

The Steelers needed two quarterbacks to throw for all of 21 yards Sunday at Tennessee, the fewest they've had in a victory since at least 1960, according to STATS LLC. A third quarterback could be on the way Sunday. Their offense hasn't scored a touchdown in regulation yet, and they've been outpassed by nearly 2-to-1 — normally, a scenario that spells defeat in the increasingly pass-driven NFL.

To reflect the way they're scuffling on offense, perhaps the Steelers' statistics should reflect feet-gained passing, not yards gained.

Not that it's mattered. With their defense performing like a 21st-century version of the Steel Curtain, the Steelers (2-0) are assured of getting through quarterback Ben Roethlisberger's potentially season-ruining four-game suspension with no worse than a 2-2 record.

"It means a lot because people thought we'd be 0-2," cornerback Bryant McFadden said Monday.

Even 4-0 seems possible, with a road game Sunday at Tampa Bay (2-0) that could have the feel of a home game given how many Steelers fans already have purchased tickets, and the Ravens (1-1) at home a week later.

Not many in the NFL predicted that, and that seems to anger a team that took umbrage at suggestions its season might be over before its franchise quarterback returned.

"We knew everybody was going to count us out, having Ben out," linebacker James Farrior said. "They think they can't win without Ben, but that just gives us a little more motivation. Mike Tomlin has been (mad) the last couple of weeks, so he's been taking it out on us — and we've been taking it out on other teams."

Obviously, Titans star Chris Johnson ran up against the wrong team as he failed to extend his streak of consecutive 100-yard games to 13. Johnson had an 85-yard touchdown run called back by a penalty, but managed only 34 yards on 16 carries as Pittsburgh won 19-11 by forcing seven turnovers.

Linebacker James Harrison suggested Johnson could have gotten his 100 yards, but only if he had gotten 40 carries. The week before, former All-Pro Michael Turner was held to 42 yards on 19 carries as Atlanta couldn't get into the end zone while losing in overtime 15-9.

"Coach Tomlin wants a violent team that plays within the rules and is aggressive," McFadden said. "We want to be the attackers. We don't drive the speed limit, and we don't wear seat belts when we're out there playing."

Against this defense, hitting 55 — in yards, that is — is proving difficult. Johnson and Turner now understand how Archie Griffin, Rickey Young, Tommy Reamon and numerous other running backs felt trying to gain yards against the last Steelers team to weather such adversity without its star quarterback.

The 1976 Steelers started 1-4 after winning the Super Bowl the previous two seasons, and their year seemed to be over as quarterback Terry Bradshaw couldn't start six games due to neck and wrist injuries. They responded by going 6-0 with rookie quarterback Mike Kruczek starting, and they returned to the AFC championship game for the fourth time in five seasons.

Those Steelers accomplished it with the most sustained stretch of defensive excellence by any recent-era NFL team. They had five shutouts — three in a row — and held three others to a combined four field goals. Only one team scored in double digits against them during their final nine games, and four teams were held to single digits in first downs.

2-0 record something new for Dolphins

By STEVEN WINE
AP Sports Writer

DAVIE, Florida (AP) — The Miami Dolphins have gone through four coaches and 13 quarterbacks since their last 2-0 start.

That was back in 2002, when a team built on defense and ball control harbored playoff aspirations. The situation's similar now, with consecutive road victories stamping Miami as a potential contender in the AFC East.

"Nobody really gave us a chance to be sitting where we are now," running back Ronnie Brown said Monday. "We've got to keep grinding, but I like our chances, and everybody on the team is believing in what we're doing."

Unbeaten status this late in September is a big change for the Dolphins, who started 0-2 each of the past four years. The 2-0 record with Miami is a new experience for every player but one running back Ricky Williams, the lone remaining link to 2002.

"It's exciting," Williams said. "As a young team we're gaining a lot of confidence, and it makes it much easier to buy into what the coach is saying when you're winning."

What coach Tony Sparano says is that his Dolphins are a work in progress, and it's yet to be determined whether they're ready for prime time. They'll find out Sunday night against the archrival New York Jets (1-1), who are coming off a win over New England.

Miami's two victories have been impressive partly because of where they took place. First the Dolphins won at Buffalo, where they had lost five games in a row. On Sunday they beat the Minnesota Vikings, who went 8-0 at home last year.

The last time Miami started a season with consecutive road wins was in 1977.

"That's way before me," said linebacker Cameron Wake, who wasn't even alive then. "Every day since March, we were working



TACKLE STRUGGLE: Vikings linebacker Chad Greenway (52) struggles to bring down Dolphins running back Ricky Williams (34) during the second half of Sunday's game in Minneapolis. The Dolphins won 14-10.

(AP Photo)

toward starting fast. I know the last few years it hasn't happened."

Wake is one of seven new starters on a swarming defense that has been the primary catalyst in Miami's success. In the 14-10 win at Minnesota, the Dolphins had three sacks and four takeaways, and Brett Favre endured his worst day with the Vikings.

A collective effort started with the secondary. Cornerback Vontae Davis had an

interception at the 1-yard line, broke up two other passes and made six tackles. Cornerback Jason Allen was even better with two interceptions, one at the 2, three passes broken up and 11 tackles.

Linebacker Karlos Dansby made nine tackles, including a stop on fourth and goal at the 1 with less than 3 minutes to go. Wake had 10 sacks and forced a Favre fumble recovered for a touchdown by rookie Koa

Misi, one of five first- or second-year pros seeing significant playing time under new defensive coordinator Mike Nolan.

"These first two games are a great start for our defense," Dansby said. "These young guys are playing hard and are relentless."

Minnesota's lone touchdown drive covered only 1 yard after a fumble. Despite that score, the Dolphins have allowed two teams only 20 points while totaling six sacks, and opposing quarterbacks have a rating of 58.3.

"We still don't know how good our defense could be," Davis said. "We just try to get better and better."

On offense, there's definitely room for improvement. Despite the addition of Pro Bowl receiver Brandon Marshall, the Dolphins are averaging only 135 yards passing per game, and Chad Henne has thrown for just one score.

The ground game has been better, but running backs Ronnie Brown and Ricky Williams earned demerits when each fumbled deep in Miami territory against the Vikings.

"You thank God when you can fumble and still come out with a win, specially in crucial situations like we did," Williams said. "We're going to work on it, and it's not going to happen again."

The Dolphins have totaled only 29 points, and with the next three games against 2009 playoff teams, more firepower is needed.

"I'm concerned," Sparano said. "I want to score more points than that, no question about it, and I think we have to. I have great confidence this group will continue to get better. I just don't have a crystal ball. They have to understand the urgency. We've got to get over the hump, and I think we will."

If there's any temptation to be satisfied with a 2-0 start, the Dolphins might want to note that their 2002 team failed to make the playoffs.

MRI on Redskins top pick Williams' knee okay

ASHBURN, Va. (AP) — Redskins coach Mike Shanahan says an MRI exam on starting left tackle Trent Williams' injured left knee showed no structural damage.

Shanahan says that Williams' knee is sore Monday and his status for Washington's game against the St. Louis Rams won't be known until later in the week.

The fourth overall pick in this year's draft hurt his left knee and a toe with minutes left in the fourth quarter of Washington's 30-27 overtime loss to the Houston Texans on Sunday. Williams was helped off the field and did not return to the game.

Shanahan says he's still awaiting results of an MRI on Williams' toe.

Favre's receivers regroup after loss

By JON KRAWCZYNSKI
AP Sports Writer

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. (AP) — Maybe Brett Favre could use a few more guys to throw to.

The Vikings quarterback had an awful game Sunday in a 14-10 loss to Miami. And his receiver corps keeps getting banged up.

Coach Brad Childress says an MRI found no structural damage to receiver Percy Harvin's injured right hip. Childress says Harvin has a strain and was still sore on Monday. He says it's too early to know whether Harvin will play this weekend against Detroit.

Vikings receiver Sidney Rice is out for at least another month after having hip surgery in August. And Bernard Berrian has just three catches for 27 yards in the first two games. The team acquired Greg Camarillo in a trade from Miami, but he has only two catches for 32 yards.

Asked if the Vikings were considering trading for disgruntled Chargers receiver Vincent Jackson, Childress declined to comment.

Texans turn corner in comeback win

By CHRIS DUNCAN
AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Texans have a history of blown leads and heartbreaking losses. Coach Gary Kubiak thinks they may have finally blossomed into a team that wins those kinds of games.

The Texans (2-0) rallied from 17 points down in the second half to beat Washington 30-27 on Sunday, an improbable victory that previous Houston teams would not have pulled off.

All-Pro receiver Andre Johnson said during training camp that he sensed a more confident, determined vibe from these Texans and so far it's shown with two breakthrough wins to start the season: They snapped a six-game losing streak to Peyton Manning and the Colts in the opener and earned the franchise's first overtime win in electrifying fashion on Sunday.

Houston plays Dallas (0-2) this week, another chance for a meaningful victory. While the Cowboys are reeling, the Texans are 2-0 for the second time in nine seasons and have won six straight games dating to last year — the franchise's longest victory streak.

"We've matured, we've grown up," Kubiak said Monday. "We've come to expect to play in great football games, and get in them, and be willing to make the play and be the difference maker."

Kubiak, in his fifth season, witnessed his team's resolve again after the Texans fell behind the Redskins 20-7 at halftime. He said the players and coaches vented some frustration in the locker room, then quickly regained their focus.

"There were a lot of disappointed people," Kubiak said. "But yet, once that was over, there was a calm about. 'Hey, we're 13 points down. Let's go win a half of football.'"

"It wasn't like we took any frustration or panic to the field in the second half," he said. "Once we got our frustrations out of the way, and the talking was done, we said, 'Let's go play a good half of football and see what happens.'"

About 10 months ago, Kubiak was answering questions about his job security after the Texans slipped to 5-7. He was criticized for signing off on a halfback pass from the 5-yard line that was intercepted late in a 23-18 loss at Jacksonville.

That followed back-to-back 20-17 losses



SACKED: Redskins quarterback Donovan McNabb (5) is sacked by Texans defensive end Mario Williams (90) during the second half of Sunday's game. The Texans won 30-27 in overtime.

(AP Photo)

es to Tennessee and Indianapolis in which Kris Brown missed last-second field goals, and another loss to the Colts in which Houston blew a 17-0 lead.

On Sunday, it was the Texans mounting the comeback, their coach making the right call on a tough decision and their kicker booting the game winner.

Houston won the coin flip for the overtime kickoff, took the ball and drove to the Redskins' 34. Kubiak felt a stiff breeze facing kicker Neil Rackers, so he opted to punt and put the pressure on Houston's defense instead.

"I think it would've been a 53 or 54-yard field goal," Kubiak said. "What I was watching, as the game goes, it was obvious that every kicker wanted to go the other way. When Neil kicked off, he put the ball in the end zone. If you watch Neil's kickoff in the fourth quarter, his kickoff hit about the 10-yard line. It just raised some red flags for me."

Washington drove to the Houston 34, and Kubiak called time-out a second before Graham Gano kicked an apparent game-winning field goal. Gano missed wide right on his second try, the Texans drove inside the Redskins' 20 and Rackers won it with a 35-yard kick.

Kubiak found plenty to criticize when he broke down the game film. He also saw standout performances from just about all the team's emerging stars.

Defensive end Mario Williams sacked Donovan McNabb three times and Johnson came back from a sprained ankle to make a spectacular catch for the tying touchdown with about two minutes left. Matt Schaub completed 38 of 52 passes for a franchise record 497 yards, Kevin Walter caught 11 passes for 144 yards and safety Bernard Pollard, acquired last season, blocked a field-goal attempt.

"We didn't play well as a team, but we had about 4-5 guys just put the team on their shoulders and be exceptional," Kubiak said.

This is the Texans' ninth season, and their 19-10 win over Dallas in the franchise's inaugural game still stands as one of the team's most important victories. They've added two more significant wins this season.

"From looking at the film, golly, it was not one of our better football games," Kubiak said.

"But to still find a way to win, playing in a tough situation like that, that was impressive."

Cowboys 'frustrated but not panicking' at 0-2

By STEPHEN HAWKINS
AP Sports Writer

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Before the Dallas Cowboys have any chance to be the first team to play a Super Bowl at home, they have to win some games.

Dallas is already at a crossroads in its season after losing the first two games.

Safety Gerald Sensabaugh says he's tired of hearing talk about the Super Bowl that will be played in Cowboys Stadium in February. He just wants to talk about the next game, Sunday at undefeated Houston (2-0).

Receiver Roy Williams describes the mood as "frustrated but not panicking."

Since 1990, only 22 of the 169 teams that started 0-2 made the playoffs. One was the 1993 Cowboys, who won the Super Bowl.

While Dallas is the only 0-2 team in the NFC East, the other three division teams are all 1-1.