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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2009

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**BAHAMAS BIGGEST**

**SPORTS**

**Dennis Darling eager for BAAA election results**

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# 18 tourists in shotgun terror

## Minister tells of his 'grave concern'



**Tim Clarke/Tribune staff**  
**GRAVE CONCERN:** National Security Minister Tommy Turnquest at the press conference.

**BY TANEKA THOMPSON**

TWO men wielding shotguns robbed 18 tourists who were on an eco-tour yesterday.

The brutal thugs also gun-butted a Bahamian woman during the robbery, however her injuries are not life-threatening. She was the only one hurt during the hold-up.

The visitors, who were passengers on the Disney and Royal Caribbean cruise lines, were part of two separate groups touring the Bahamas Association for Social Health's (BASH) Earth Village in the former Perpall Tract Wellfield area when they were attacked at about 1pm.

The men tied up the Bahamian tour guide with the first group and ordered them to the ground before robbing them of money, passports, cell phones, credit cards and personal items.

During the robbery, a second group of visitors approached and were also held up.

National Security Minister Tommy Turnquest, flanked by Commissioner of Police Reginald Ferguson, several senior police officers and Ministry of Tourism officials, ordered an impromptu press conference at police headquarters last night.

Mr Turnquest told reporters the incident was one of grave concern.

"The last thing that we want to happen is to have our tourist destination marred by these thugs," he said.

The Minister said every available police unit was being utilised to track down the suspects.

**SEE page six**

## MAN FACES STRING OF RAPE CHARGES



**CHARGED:** Bradley Ellis, 40, appeared in Magistrate Court yesterday charged with a string of rapes and other offences.

**By ALISON LOWE**  
**Tribune Staff Reporter**  
alowe@tribunemedia.net

A MAN appeared in court yesterday charged with a string of rapes, the indecent assault of a child, and numerous armed robberies and burglaries.

In all but one of the 23 charges, the alleged victims were women or

girls. The crimes are said to have been committed on nine different days between October 16, 2009, and last Tuesday, November 17.

On one night alone, Bradley Ellis, 40, was accused of raping and robbing one woman of \$13 before going on to rob three other women and a man.

After arraigning Ellis in court number eight yesterday, Magistrate

Carolina Bethel remanded him to prison and told him to return to court on Monday, November 23, for a trial date.

Speaking up in his defence, Ellis, 40, of Hospital Lane, Nassau, claimed police beat him while in custody and that he was "forced to sign" certain things.

**SEE page six**

## Woman left 'traumatised' by long wait for justice

**BY AVA TURNQUEST**

A WOMAN who was allegedly brutally beaten by police more than 20 years ago says she is struggling to maintain her sanity as a date for the appeal to her case, which she won in 2005, has yet to be set.

Beryl Grant told *The Tribune* of the daily trials she endures to secure basic necessities for her family, and of her desperation for closure to the struggle for justice that has left her mentally and physically traumatised.

The former hairbraider was involved in an altercation with police constable Roy Cooper in January 1988, through which it was alleged that Ms Grant was assaulted and wrongfully imprisoned.

Ms Grant explained that in the years since the details of her case were announced, and the public made aware of how her case has languished in the Bahamas legal system, she has amassed a huge amount of debt — the amount steadily climbing as she awaits the appeal.

Due to financial constraints, Ms Grant began renting from her lawyer under special agreement that the rent would be paid once she was compensated.

Ms Grant said, though only a fraction of her accumulated debt, at the end of this year, she will have

**SEE page six**

## Man stabbed to death after argument

**By TANEKA THOMPSON**  
**Tribune Staff Reporter**  
tthompson@tribunemedia.net

A VIOLENT argument between two men left one dead from fatal stab wounds, say police.

Officers were informed of the stabbing incident in Gregory Town, Eleuthera, at around 11.22pm on Thursday.

It is alleged that two men got into an altercation, which resulted in one of them being stabbed about the body.

Police press officer Sergeant Chrislyn Skipplings said: "The male died as a result of the injuries received. Police are investigating."

The identity of the victim has not been released. Police are questioning a man in his mid-twenties.

LOCAL NEWS

# Bahamian gets post at multilateral anti-terror group

**By Khyle Quincy Parker  
Press Attaché  
Embassy of The Bahamas**

WASHINGTON, DC – Bahamian Shevaun Culmer is the new programme manager at the Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee Against Terrorism (CICTE), the anti-terrorism arm of the Organisation of American States (OAS).

Culmer assumes the post at a time when The Bahamas is serving as the Vice Chair of the CICTE, and also head of the Working Group tasked with preparing for

the Tenth Regular Session of the CICTE (CICTE X).

She comes to the post after having interned in Bolivia with Partners of The Americas this summer, and having spent part of February 2009 developing policy proposals for the government in Senegal as part of an elite student group. She has also studied in Spain and the Dominican Republic.

Culmer, 23, this year completed a Masters Degree in Public Policy from the Gerald R Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan. During her schooling,

in addition to the litany of experiences cited above, she was a Charles Rangel Scholar and interned with the US Department of State and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

## Excited

Asked to define her state of mind after having secured the CICTE position, Culmer said: "Excited, anxious and ready to go."

In addition to her newly-minted Public Policy degree, Culmer

has a Bachelors Degree in Spanish and International Studies.

The Bahamas has proposed to the CICTE that governments in the region ought to work to leverage the economic and innovative power of the private sector for counter terrorism efforts in the western hemisphere through public/private partnerships.

As a theme for CICTE X, The Bahamas has proposed "Public-Private Partnerships In The Fight Against Terrorism".

It is expected this theme will "engender lively and productive discussion and further the dialogue

on this potentially critical tool in our hemispheric counter terrorism arsenal".

The election occurred at the first of three scheduled preparatory meetings designed to smooth the path to the CICTE meeting scheduled for March 17-9, 2010. The Bahamas will serve as Vice Chair of the CICTE until March 2010, and then take over chairmanship of the committee.

The working group now chaired by The Bahamas is responsible for drafting of the documents that will be presented and approved at the CICTE meeting next March.

# Financial boost for EVERY CHILD COUNTS



PRESENTATION of part proceeds from the Antique Auto Club of The Bahamas 2009 Antique Car Show; Murray Forde, Club Secretary, Mrs. Lyn Major, Administrator, Marsden Lawley, Senior Teacher and Valencia Duvra, student.



SENIOR TEACHER Marsden Lawley in his classroom, which houses students being educated at the Grade 7 through 12 level.

THE Antique Auto Club of The Bahamas recently donated half of the proceeds of its 2009 antique car show to Every Child Counts, a school for children with special needs in Marsh Harbour, Abaco.

The School was started more than 10 years ago by Lyn Major when she discovered there was no educational facility for children for special needs in Abaco.

With assistance from Rev Kolsa of St Frances de Sales Church and Dr S Kos-

sak, of Florida International University, Every Child Counts was born.

The school is exceeding capacity with 106 students. It has a dedicated staff of 19, including nine specially-trained teachers and 20 to 30 volunteers.

Unlike specialised schools which deal with one type of disability, the students have a wide range of disabilities including developmental disabilities, autism, cerebral palsy, deafness and Down's syndrome.

## In brief

### Row leads to stabbing

A HEATED row between two neighbours turned violent leaving a man in hospital nursing a knife wound to the chest. The victim, a 37-year-old resident of Elizabeth Estates, told police he and his neighbour were involved in an altercation around 5.55pm on Thursday.

During the exchange, the victim says he was stabbed once to the chest with a knife. His condition is described as "stable".

A 33-year-old man is helping officers with their inquiries.

## Carnival Dream cruise ship in inaugural voyage to Lucayan Harbour



FREEPORT – The *Carnival Dream* cruise ship made its inaugural voyage to Lucayan Harbour yesterday. Ministry of Tourism officials went onboard the ship for a brief welcome ceremony and tour. Dream, operated by Carnival Cruise Line, arrived into port at 8am with more than 1,000 passengers.

PHOTOS: Felipe Major/Tribune staff



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**Nov. 22 12pm—5pm**

LOCAL NEWS

PAYMENT 'TO BE MADE BETWEEN FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 2010'

# Government makes pledge on insurance coverage for nurses

By TANEKA THOMPSON  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
tthompson@tribunemedia.net



Dion Foulkes

THE Government will pay its portion of the insurance coverage promised to the country's nurses between the first six months of 2010, promised Labour Minister Dion Foulkes.

"We are making provisions for the payment of the Government's portion of premiums toward the nurses from January to June of next year," said Mr Foulkes. "We're very pleased that we are able to settle these matters with the nurses of the Bahamas".

The nurses' insurance will cost the Government an estimated \$1.4 million.

Mr Foulkes' statements came as he led the debate on two supplementary appropriation bills before the Senate yesterday, which were passed in the House of Assembly on Wednesday.

The two supplementary appropriations bills will give the Government the right to spend the money on several things: a temporary job programme that will create 2,500 six-month-long jobs, numerous minor public works projects, payments to unionised teachers, doctors and nurses of monies that had to be deferred this summer due to revenue shortfalls and the hiring of a small number of "essential" permanent workers throughout various public sector agencies.

Mr Foulkes said the nation's teachers are owed an estimated total of \$3.4 million and said all teachers hired on or before the July 1, 2009, will receive their increases.

Nurses will receive a four

per cent increase which accounts for \$4.4 million; doctors will receive a 1.5 per cent increase amounting to \$800,000.

He added that the Government has made provisions for the employment of 7,000 permanent and temporary public service employees through its stimulus packages spurred by the economic downturn.

"These measures are the last in a series of responses to the economic crisis which has caused tremendous hardship in these tough times," said Mr Foulkes.

He said the Government has created the following jobs: 1,500 from the housing programme created in the construction, renovation and repair of more than 300 houses throughout the Bahamas; more than 500 jobs stemming from the Government's environmental clean-up campaign; more than 2,000 jobs created through construction projects.

Through the Department of Social Services' assistance programme, more than 200 jobs were created, he said.

"Over 300 persons have been engaged in new govern-

ment jobs as a result of this economic downturn. This gives us a total of over 4,500 temporary and permanent jobs which have been created by the government as a result of this economic downturn.

"And now we are before this Senate to give approval for the engagement on a temporary basis of 2,500 jobs for unemployed Bahamians. This gives a total of 7,000 temporary and permanent jobs the Government has recently created in response to this economic downturn," he said.

The recently implemented unemployment benefit programme has already assisted over 13,500 unemployed Bahamians to the tune of \$19.3 million paid out by the National Insurance Board, said Mr Foulkes.

He said through the two bills before the Senate yesterday will pump \$26.6 million into the economy "which will further help to stimulate the economy, secure existing jobs and provide new jobs".

Mr Foulkes also said through the two bills an additional \$2.5 million that will go towards infrastructure improvements.

Some of the projects include: repairing and paving Shirley Street between Mount Royal Avenue and Frederick Street; replacing broken side walks and kerbs in Rawson Square and throughout Nassau; starting the reconstruction of the Sunshine Park Sea Wall in Hopetown, Abaco; reconstructing of the Salt Pond dock in Long Island; completing the Bennis Harbour dock in Cat Island; and replacing the damaged sea wall at the western esplanade in Nassau.

## Man charged over shooting of police detective

By ALISON LOWE  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
alowe@tribunemedia.net



RENAUD PETITHOMME, 20, appeared before Magistrate Carolita Bethel yesterday.

PHOTO: Tim Clarke /Tribune staff

A MAN was charged yesterday in connection with the shooting of a police detective.

Renaud Petithomme, 20, who was described in court dockets as a Bahamian, appeared before Magistrate Carolita Bethel in Court number eight. Wearing a bright red button-down shirt and jeans, Petithomme was charged with possession of a firearm with intent to endanger life.

It is alleged that on Sunday, November 15, he had in his possession a handgun with the intent to endanger the life of Detective Sergeant 106 Michael Meronard.

Sven people are listed as witnesses, including DS Meronard, and Assistant Superintendent Leon Bethel, who is attached to the Central Detective Unit.

According to police reports, DS Meronard was shot in the knee near Laird Street and Baillou Hill Road. He was taken to hospital, but his injuries were not life-threatening.

Magistrate Bethel told the accused that the matter cannot be tried in the magistrates court.

She told Petithomme, of Augusta Street, Nassau, to attend court on December 4 for a bail hearing and fixture. At that time, said the Magistrate, the Prosecutor will indicate whether he intends to proceed by way of voluntary bill of indictment to the Supreme Court, or if a preliminary inquiry will be held to determine if there is sufficient evidence to try the matter.

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## Commonwealth Bank leads the industry with Saturday banking



**FULL SERVICE Saturday Banking** at the Golden Gates Branch (photo l-r): Marcus Cleare, assistant manager (credit), Cindy Curtis, assistant manager (operations); first saturday banking customer Susan Palmer, and Mavis Burrows, vice president (operations).

THE Commonwealth Bank is the first commercial bank in The Bahamas to offer its customers a "full service" Saturday banking.

The extended hours of business operation currently available at two branch locations on Prince Charles Drive and Golden Gates will offer the full array of personal banking services from 10am to 1pm every Saturday.

"As part of Commonwealth Bank's continuing efforts to better serve our customers, the implementation of full service Saturday Banking is essential," said William B Sands, Jr President & CEO.

### INSIGHT

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

**Galleria Cinemas**  
EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 20TH 2009

THE TWILIGHT SAGA	NEW	1:00	3:30	N/A	6:30	8:25	10:40
BLIND SIDE	NEW	1:15	N/A	4:15	7:15	N/A	10:00
FLAMEY 51	NEW	1:25	3:40	N/A	6:20	8:35	10:35
2012	T	1:35	N/A	4:35	7:35	N/A	10:50
A CHRISTMAS CAROL	A	1:55	3:45	N/A	6:15	8:25	10:35
THE ICE	T	1:55	3:30	N/A	6:05	8:25	10:45
EP MAN	T	1:55	3:40	N/A	6:15	8:25	10:35
MICHAEL JACKSON: THIS IS IT	A	1:55	3:25	N/A	6:35	8:25	10:45
LAW READING CITIZEN	C	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	8:25	10:45
1 CAR DOG SAYS ILL BY MYSELF	B	1:55	3:30	N/A	6:35	N/A	N/A

**GALLERIA 6 - JERK DRIVE**

THE TWILIGHT SAGA	NEW	1:00	3:25	N/A	6:30	8:25	10:45
BLIND SIDE	NEW	1:15	N/A	4:15	7:10	N/A	10:15
FLAMEY 51	NEW	1:15	3:45	N/A	6:15	8:30	10:35
2012	T	1:15	N/A	4:30	7:30	N/A	10:50
A CHRISTMAS CAROL	A	1:05	3:35	N/A	6:15	8:30	10:35
MICHAEL JACKSON	A	1:00	3:35	N/A	6:30	N/A	N/A
LAW READING CITIZEN	C	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	8:25	10:45

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## EDITORIAL/LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

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

SIR ETIENNE DUPUCH, Kt., O.B.E., K.M., K.C.S.G.,  
(Hon.) LL.D., D.Litt.Publisher/Editor 1919-1972  
Contributing Editor 1972-1991EILEEN DUPUCH CARRON, C.M.G., M.S., B.A., LL.B.  
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**China's breathtaking expansion in Africa**

WASHINGTON — Even the celebrated 19th-century scramble for Africa seems to pale compared to the huge and growing Chinese presence, which is roiling the continent.

For a decade, China has been buying its way into Africa to secure the fuel and raw materials it believes it will need for its economic expansion.

These Chinese moves in Africa are breathtaking in their scope. Whereas the European grab for Africa and its treasures in the 19th century was haphazard, and fed by rivalry in Europe as much as interests in Africa, the Chinese neo-imperialism has a thoroughness and a planning that no European power — not even Britain — ever aspired to.

China is reported to be active in 48 countries out of the roughly 53 real state entities on the continent, or on its offshore islands. The Chinese formula is simple: Buy your way in with soft loans and generous arms deals but, above all, a preparedness to overlook the excesses of dictators. No wonder Robert Mugabe in Zimbabwe lavishes praise on his new best friends.

The same is true in many other African countries. All that is needed for Beijing's embrace is a supply of raw materials — and especially oil.

From Cape Town to Cairo, China is on the march. From South Africa it buys iron ore, among other minerals; from Zambia, copper; and from Zimbabwe chrome, gold and iron ore.

In Zambia, the Chinese have promised \$3.2 billion to revive the copper industry — an interesting development because Western mining companies pulled out, unable to deal with the wholesale and destructive corruption.

At a meeting of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation at Sharm El Sheikh in Egypt earlier this month, the Chinese pledged \$10 billion in aid to Africa. Quietly, they also forgave a tranche of maturing loans.

But government-to-government loans are the least of the Chinese investment in Africa. Most of the investments, such as that in Zambia, are made by Chinese corporations — all state-sanctioned and some state-owned. It is a concerted effort.

While oil producers like Angola, Chad, Libya, Nigeria and Sudan are prime targets

of the Chinese investment, the rapacious Chinese economic imperialism also extends to lumber and agriculture.

The ruling elites of Africa are ecstatic. The Chinese presence is, for them, heaven-sent. Polling, albeit rudimentary, reveals about 80-per cent approval of China's African role by Africa's elites.

At the street level, these findings are reversed. The Chinese are roundly resented. They have no experience in the world outside of China; no curiosity about these strange African lands and their people; and a morbid indifference to Africa's long-term future. Most Chinese workers, as opposed to executives, brought to Africa are poorly educated and ill-equipped to live in different cultures. A study by Loro Horta, a visiting fellow at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore, found deep unhappiness in a study conducted in many African countries.

First and foremost, Horta found, China does not employ local labour, preferring to import Chinese workers and to house them in "Chinatowns." Second, the indifference of Chinese enterprises to environmental damage is of concern. And third, China is accused of dumping inferior goods and medicines on the African markets. Africa's fragile but important textile industries are being killed off by a flood of cheap Chinese manufactures.

More, Chinese merchants are flooding in and displacing local traders. Horta quotes a school teacher in Mozambique, "They (the government) say China is a great power, just like America. But what kind of great power sends thousands of people to a poor country like ours to sell cakes on the street, and take the jobs of our own street-sellers, who are already so poor?"

Then there is the Chinese language push. The Chinese government has set up schools in many places to teach Chinese to reluctant students who would prefer to improve their English and French skills, legacies of the last scramble for Africa.

But while China buys off Africa's elites, and provides them with weapons to suppress their own people, the rape of Africa will continue.

\*\*\*\*

(This article was written by Llewellyn King, host of television's "White House Chronicle." — c.2009 Hearst Newspapers).

**Congratulating Grand Bahama Port Authority**

EDITOR, The Tribune.

First of all I wish to congratulate the Grand Bahama Port Authority for initiating the revitalisation of the physical environment of Freeport. There is a sense now that care is once again being taken to bring this city with its enormous potentials back in sync with its vision as the enviable metropolis in this region. Adorning the city with attractive flora brings alive a natural beauty which gives a balanced perspective to this touted industrial capital of the Bahamas. With proper care and maintenance, what has now been started can assist in wiping away that negative image that has plagued our city for sometime.

I would like to suggest that the Port attempt to convince the Ministry of Agriculture to adhere to its promise to deal with the infestation of the pink hibiscus mealy bug, which has virtually wiped out the beauty of those glorious flowers which once adorned every area of our city. These devouring creatures have now descended upon a myriad of other plants, and a simple casual look around will reveal what damage has already been done to flowering flora. For two years concerned residents have begged the Ministry to bring in the only known agent that destroys these nefarious creatures. But, I suppose, being simple peons,

**LETTERS**  
letters@tribunemedia.net

we have not the clout to convince the powers that be to act. Maybe now the Port Authority can exercise its muscle and either demand that something be done, or, better still, import that agent itself to deal expeditiously with this plague.

With respect to the other projects on stream; they are all commendable and long overdue. However, this is an opportune time to create these amenities for the anticipated return of the glory of Freeport. The attention now afforded the chicken farm odour is such a welcomed measure. For years the patience of residents have been worn thin as their nostrils have endured this repulsive stench.

I recall years ago, while attending university in Minnesota, one of the largest turkey and chicken farms in that state was situated a little more than a quarter of a mile from the campus. At any one time it contained one million turkeys and twice that many chickens. However, in the four years there I never once smelled a single odour from that property, no matter the direction of the wind. Of course, unlike here, regula-

tions were in place and enforced to deal with such matters.

With respect to the proposed fish and conch market and its placement: I agree totally with my friend and colleague Fred Smith. The site is a gross mistake. Even if the market were to be fully enclosed, an abundance of flies will undoubtedly wing their way to the area. Just imagine, then, the invasion of these creatures upon the International Bazaar, the Royal Oasis (once it's operating again), where locals and tourists alike would be dining outdoors. If one thinks that the chicken farm breeds billions of flies which now descend upon homes, schools, churches and YMCA, expect the tasty aroma of fish and conch attracting them in the trillions. A much more sensible location would be the old Portion Control property which provides a crossroads locale, and is sufficiently removed from residential and tourist environments. We must be careful not to add to the potential for fly-carrying diseases across the breadth of this city, and then be left with a barren land devoid of visitors or economic growth.

**JOSEPH DARVILLE**  
Vice-President,  
GB Human  
Rights Association  
Freeport, GB  
November 17, 2009.**Some people you never unite**

EDITOR, The Tribune.

Once again I thank you for allowing me space in your valuable newspaper.

The P L P Convention is now over, Mr Christie without a doubt is the undisputed Leader and while we call for unity, which is good but there are some people you never unite. They talk the talk, but would not walk the walk.

In the Convention on Thursday there were a group of MPs, former MPS and former Party Officers along with anti-Christie supporters that sat up front, but at the right side of the Convention. I am sure it was not an accident but properly planned. Christie must make up his mind to accept that they are not going to change. This is my opinion. The headline in the Punch by Nicki Kelly read "Perry Christie wins but can he trust those around him". This is very important, but in my opinion he cannot.

There are those who say Christie is not going to change but personally they are going to have a shock of their life because Christie will change. I believe Christie now understand the song "Everybody loves a winner and when you lose you lose alone." I am also sure he

realises when he looked right there were no friends — ahead none — left no friends but when he looked behind they were stabbing him in the back. For the number of people who stabbed Christie in the back there is a song for them by Kenny Rodgers. "Coward of the County". The drift of the song is a human being can only take so much and when they change it may be a sad day in hell.

Over the past four months our Caucus Group that assisted Christie, with numerous meetings we know that Christie has changed. We were part of Psalms 118:1-22. Out of our group the Young Professionals were formed that many Candidates would emerge from Mr Christie's first obligation is to find 20 Loyal PLPs to get the best 20 seats. Secondly, the way Philip "Fish" McKenzie ran Philip "Brave" Davis and Leader Christie's campaign, Mr McKenzie should be the Campaign Manager for the PLP for the next general election, but these are only my suggestions.

**AUDLEY D HANNA Sr JP**  
Nassau,  
October, 2009.**NOTICE**NOTICE is hereby given that **RONEL GARY of PINEDALE, EIGHT MILE ROCK, GRAND BAHAMA, BAHAMAS** is applying to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, for registration/naturalization as a citizen of The Bahamas, and that any person who knows any reason why registration/ naturalization should not be granted, should send a written and signed statement of the facts within twenty-eight days from the **14th** day of **November, 2009** to the Minister responsible for Nationality**NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given of the loss of Bahamas Government Registered Stock Certificate as follows:

Stock	Intrest Rate	Certificate No.	Maturity Date	Amount
2007-2014	6.000%	43-036	21, September, 2009	\$500.00

I intend to request The Registrar to issue a replacement certificate. If this certificate is found, please write to P.O. Box N-9231 Nassau, Bahamas.

**We need every citizen to participate in nation building**

EDITOR, The Tribune.

Greetings from Englerston, Mr Wendall Jones:

I heard you spoke about your observation on a drive through in Englerston recently — on your show — November 11, 2009 on the topic of Urban Renewal.

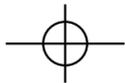
You mentioned driving in the area of Homestead Avenue and St Charles Vincent Street, and seeing the dope smokers, and garbage all around. What did you do about it besides complain about the same on the radio Mr Jones?

I'll bet you, Mr Jones, that you did nothing except nitpick publicly about what you observed on the drive in question. That's the problem with Urban Renewal in The Bahamas; citizens are not interested in turning things around — all that most of us want to do is complain, and criticise; and order room service when we want something. It's a cultural phenomenon that needs to change before we move on to a brighter and prosperous future for all Bahamians.

I am sure that you could use your radio and television enterprise to encourage all of us to be more actively and productively involved in our respective community, and country. This is what The Bahamas requires just now, Mr Jones; we need every citizen to participate in nation building.

To simply bellyache about this, that and the next — day in and day out is counterproductive to where we should be as a nation 36 years after independence. If the likes of you as a leading public news, and commentary figure continues to cry only about the vices in our society — then what do you expect from us lesser members of society? The Bahamas expects better of you, Mr Wendall Jones.

**DENNIS ARTHUR DAMES**  
Nassau,  
November, 2009.**NOTICE**NOTICE is hereby given that **SANDY DENISE MUNNINGS of #90 FRIGATE COURT, MALIBOO REEF, GRAND BAHAMA, BAHAMAS** is applying to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, for registration/naturalization as a citizen of The Bahamas, and that any person who knows any reason why registration/ naturalization should not be granted, should send a written and signed statement of the facts within twenty-eight days from the **21st** day of **November, 2009** to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, P.O.Box N-7147, Freeport, Bahamas.**St Andrews Presbyterian Kirk,**  
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322-5475**The Annual General Meeting of**  
**St Andrew's School Limited**  
**will take place in the school's Library on**  
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**At 7:00 p.m.****Financial statements and proxy forms**  
**may be obtained from the Business**  
**Office at St Andrew's School.**



LOCAL NEWS

# Hundreds of positions available in temporary jobs programme

By DENISE MAYCOCK  
Tribune Freeport Reporter  
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT – Minister of State for Finance Zhivargo Laing has announced that people can apply for the temporary jobs programme which will involve a number of government agencies on Grand Bahama.

Mr Laing noted that about 500 persons could be hired through the numerous projects that will be undertaken by the various the agencies.

“A number of government agencies will soon be mounting their own projects, so if the Ministry of Education is hiring teachers’ aide and if you are interested in that, then that is where you want to make your application,” he said.

“If the Ministry of Finance is going to engage some 200 college graduates then persons will have to make application to the Ministry of Finance.”

The Government plans to temporarily employ 250 Bahamians to serve as teachers’ aides in the classrooms.

Mr Laing said application forms are available through various agencies and offices, including the Administrator’s Office, as well as online at the government’s website, [www.bahamas.gov.bs](http://www.bahamas.gov.bs).

“The temporary jobs program is going to provide a boost to a number of people here on Grand Bahama,” he said.

Mr Laing also indicated that work on the new \$16 million government office complex is expected to begin by the end of the year or early next year.

“We in the government continue to be focus on trying to help the Grand Bahama economy recover, and trying to find ways to the improve the economic situation here.”

Although it has been particularly challenging given the global economic situation, Mr Laing said there have been some recent positive activities that have taken place in Freeport.

The minister said the completion of South Riding Point’s \$250 million transaction in the transfer of lease arrangement has significantly boosted government revenue, which has enabled the Government to mount a temporary job programme and satisfy some of its obligations.

He also mentioned the new air services from Toronto by West Jet, which has started bringing additional visitors to the island, and Delta is

expected to begin new air service next month.

On the topic of labour issues, the State Minister for Finance said the government is aware of some issues at the container port and the shipyard.

He noted that some mention was made in the House of Assembly about terminations at the container port and some issues at shipyard.

Mr Laing is calling on employers and employees to calmly work out these labour issues by following proper procedures and labour laws.

He stressed that labour matters should not be turned into a political issue.

“I detect there is a move to make this a political issue. I think it will be the worst thing that could happen because in the end that kind of partisanship only serves to contaminate the issue as opposed to it being properly resolved,” he said.

“I am asking employers and employees and to really try to exercise the greatest wisdom and prudence in seeking to address these issues,” he said.

Mr Laing was also concerned about the action of some employers and their treatment of employees during these tough economic times.

“I am also aware of some instances where some employees have spoken to me about what they regard as difficult treatment they are receiving in this environment because employers realise jobs are few.

“There are some employers who have taken a harsh tone with some of them and doing some things which are proving difficult for them. I want all to recognise that we all have to work together to help us survive this situation,” he added.

## KEMPCO BUILDING DEDICATION



(ABOVE) BUILDING DEDICATED –The Kempco Building, on Tonique Williams-Darling Highway, owned by Barry and Agnes Kemp, has been officially dedicated. The building, which houses The Prickle Patch home décor and Quick Welding Co Ltd, was dedicated in memory of the Kemp’s parents. Pictured: Barry and Agnes Kemp, Leatha McPhee, Mrs Kemp’s mother, Leslie Miller, former Blue Hills MP and Pastor Wilbur Outten.

(LEFT) BUILDING DEDICATED –The Kempco Building, on Tonique Williams-Darling Highway, owned by Barry and Agnes Kemp, has been officially dedicated on Saturday past. The building, which houses The Prickle Patch home décor and Quick Welding Co Ltd, was dedicated in memory of the Kemp’s parents. Pictured at the ribbon cutting are: left to right, Raytavia Adderley, the Kemp’s granddaughter, Leatha McPhee, Mrs Kemp’s mother, and Agnes and Barry Kemp.

## Former union chiefs attacked

By DENISE MAYCOCK  
Tribune Freeport Reporter  
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT – Darrin Woods, general secretary of the Bahamas Hotel Catering Allied Workers Union, is “crying shame” on those former hotel union executives who are attempting to sway members into leaving the organisation.

Mr Woods claims people who ran in the last election, and lost, are trying to mislead members into joining a newly-revived Commonwealth Workers Union.

“Members are being told that if they join the new union that the assets of the Hotel Workers Union will pass over to the new union and that all benefits they have would be continued, but that is not so,” he said.

The new group has started a petition asking hotel workers to support the new union, which is seeking to become the bargaining agent for workers at the Our Lucaya resort.

Mr Woods said once members leave Hotel Workers Union all benefits are stopped after a certain period of time prescribed under the constitution.

He also noted that the assets

of Hotel Workers Union do not belong to just Grand Bahama. “So no other organisation can come and take over assets of HWU and continue under the same vein because the assets belong to the union proper.”

He explained that a split in assets can only occur if there is a resolution by members or if there is dissolution of the union.

Mr Woods said the new administration of Hotel Workers Union will not be distracted from its mandate.

“We see this as another ploy because some of those same persons who ran with a view to being in charge of this organisation now want to destroy the same organisation they wanted to lead.

“We have former presidents who were a part of the organisation which has been more than good to them, and now they are behind the scenes trying to destroy the very same organisation they once led. I cry shame on them,” he said.

Mr Woods said the new union is proposing to offer benefits that are just unrealistic in these hard economic times.

“Hotel Workers Union has been in existence for 50 years. We did not get here over night

and whatever benefits we have now are benefits that came along with time,” he said.

There are about 600 members in Grand Bahama.

Mr Woods noted that HWU is aware of the economic climate in Freeport and is willing to assist its members.

“We are planning on putting in place an assistance programme for members, but that is something we have to properly formalise but in the interim we are prepared to assist wherever we can because we believe we have a social and moral obligation to our members,” he said.

Mr Woods said the union has met with management at Our Lucaya Resort last week concerning two initial increases for workers.

“We realise there was an increase that should have been paid in April of this year and another in November. We have asked them to let us know when you will be able pay something to the members and we are waiting to hear back from them,” he said.

“We understand the climate in Grand Bahama and that things are tight for the hotel, but things are also hard for hotel workers.”

## why you vex?

“I am mad because I live in a neighbourhood where a Jamaican owns a record store, but I am yet to hear this person play a Bahamian record. He plays golden oldies and other American artists, but no Bahamians. For a man who has adopted the Bahamas as his home, he shows no respect.

“Even on the Bahamas’ Independence Day, all that can be heard is reggae, all day long. I am fed up,”

### A patriotic Bahamian.

“I’m vexed with BEC. My bill is \$248 and the fuel charge on top of that is \$207. Will we ever see the end of this charge. It seem like instead of coming down is still is up,”

### Disgusted.

“I vex at all this senseless crime that is gripping our lil’ island that nobody seems to be able to get a handle on. The Government politicians just want us to bury our heads in the sand and pretend like people ain’ gettin’ shoot, stab and rape up every day of the week.

“On the other hand, the PLP just using the crimewave as a political tool and they know if they were in office they wouldn’t have the answers either because our problems run deeper than just hanging couple of fellas and throwin’ the rest in jail,”

### Tired of killing.

“I vex because Bacardi Road all pothole up and it been like that for years. I want to know if the Government ga’ fix my car. They keep patching up the road but them potholes keep coming back. When will we get some relief?”

### Vexed driver.



“I vex at all these scabby, raisin leg gals ‘round Nassau who go out their house in their best clothes modeling ‘round the place all the while their foot harder than rock. I is just want to tell them that while it is commendable to have confidence in your body, at least put some lotion or better yet cocoa butter on ya heels before you squeeze into that mini dress because nobody wants to see your chalkboard skin,”

### Take pride in yourself.

“I vex at those people on Eastern Road who let their dogs stray and rip open my mess sacks. Those owners should clean up the trash their pets make,”

### Back Ache.

• Are you vex? Send your complaints to 'why-ou-vex@tribunemedia.net'.

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LOCAL NEWS

# 18 tourists in shotgun terror

FROM page one



COMMISSIONER OF POLICE Reginald Ferguson at yesterday's press conference.

Tim Clarke/Tribune staff

And he vowed that patrols would be stepped up in light of the recent spate of armed robberies throughout the capital.

Tourism Director General Vernice Walkine said incidents of this type make it "harder" for tourism officials "to promote the country as a place to consider for a vacation".

Terry Miller, Executive Director of BASH, said "no one was really injured" during the robbery.

The tourists were at the entrance to the Earth Village when they were accosted by the gunmen and robbed of jewelry, wallets and handbags.

An officer said the men attempted to steal "whatever they could take".

## Swarmed

Within minutes, a large contingent of police swarmed the area. The quick response was praised by Mr Miller.

Last night two men were helping police with their inquiries.

Meanwhile, in another tourist-related matter, a 43-year-old Canadian man had his wallet snatched by a thief as he walked on Bay Street near Navy Lion Road. The man, who had his wallet in his hand after making a purchase at a nearby store, was walking with his brother at the time.

A 49-year-old man was arrested.

# Man charged with string of rapes

FROM page one

"I honestly didn't do these crimes," he told Magistrate Bethel. He was not required to formally enter a plea in relation to any of the charges.

However, the Magistrate told him his defence would be dealt with at another time by another judge.

For the duration of the arraignment, which took around 45 minutes due to the number of charges, the accused stood silent.

It is alleged that on October 16, 2009, Ellis had sexual intercourse with a woman without her consent.

He is then alleged to have robbed her of \$13 before going on to rob a man of a Sony Ericsson cellphone valued at \$300 and three other women of \$75 and a laptop valued at \$600.

On Tuesday, October 20, Ellis is accused of targeting another woman, robbing her of \$65.

Meanwhile, a day later on Wednesday, October 21, at

around 8.15pm, it is alleged that Ellis broke into the home of a woman on Blue Hill Road, with intent to commit a felony. He is accused of stealing two gold rings, a Nokia cellphone and a Citizen watch valued at \$450.

The next day, October 22, it is alleged that Ellis broke into the home of another woman and had sexual intercourse with her without her consent. Ellis is then alleged to have committed an armed robbery against the same woman, using an "offensive instrument."

According to the Magistrate, this robbery is alleged to have netted \$1,900 worth of items belonging to the victim, including a cellphone, a gold chain and a cordless phone.

Five days later, on October 27, it is alleged that Ellis had sexual intercourse with a 20-year-old woman without her consent. He is then alleged to have robbed her of a cellphone, gold hand band, blue tooth headset, HP laptop and a silver necklace, with a total value of \$3,860.

Magistrate Bethel further said that on Sunday, November 8, it was alleged that Ellis broke into and entered another woman's home on John Street with intent to commit a felony. He is alleged to have robbed her of cash, a laptop, a digital camera and a straw-bag, valued at \$1,275.

On November 10, Ellis is accused of breaking and entering the home of a Brougham Street woman between the hours of 10pm and 5am with intent to commit robbery. It is then alleged he stole an HP laptop and a set of keys that belonged to the homeowner and were valued at \$958.

Four days later, on November 14, Ellis is accused of breaking and entering another woman's home on Tootle Shop Corner between 11pm and 3am with the intent to commit rape.

He is then alleged to have had sexual intercourse with the 37-year-old woman against her consent before going on to rob her of \$887, a watch, microwave oven, a carton of cigarettes, a box of cigars, an assortment of sodas, a toaster, two speakers and a garbage bin, worth a total value of \$1,764.

Ellis has further been charged with dishonestly receiving the garbage bin, two speakers and assortment of sodas, valued at \$178, despite knowing it had been obtained by an offence.

Meanwhile, in the last offence that Ellis is accused of committing prior to his arrest, he is alleged to have indecently assaulted a 13-year-old girl. The attack, on November 17, is alleged to have culminated in the accused robbing her of \$45 and phonecards valued at \$200.

Escorted out of court, Ellis claimed that he "did not do these crimes", telling reporters to "look at the bruises on my back and hands — they beat me".

"God knows I didn't do this," he said as he was led away.

Magistrate Carolita Bethel had earlier asked for the man to be taken to hospital to see a doctor, given his complaints, and said she would like to see that a copy of the hospital's report is attached to the dockets when his case is next heard.

# Woman is left 'traumatised' by long wait for justice

FROM page one

amassed another \$10,000 in rent debt. The case was set down for trial on July 7, 2003, but postponed. Then at a hearing February 11, 2005, defendants in the matter PC Cooper, the Commissioner of Police and the Attorney General admitted liability.

Deputy Registrar Ernie Wallace assessed an amount of \$483,271.17 for special damages, pain and suffering loss, past loss earnings, exemplary damages, false imprisonment and malicious prosecution.

Mr Wallace at that time also ordered interest at two per cent per annum from the date of judgment, pursuant to the Civil Procedure (Award of Interest) Act.

Now that a court date for the appeal is indefinite, she feels trapped to current living accommodations with each passing day dragging her deeper and deeper into debt.

"Everyone thinks I got the money," said Ms Grant. "So when I try to borrow from anyone they tell me 'oh you should be lending me money. You just won all that money'."

Ms Grant said every day is a struggle to provide a healthy and stable environment for her four-year-old daughter.

Due to the incident, Ms Grant endures consistent cramping in both hands and bilateral upper extremity weakness, which doctors think is due to a pinched nerve.

Although she has been referred to a specialist for nerve conduction studies, Ms Grant said she cannot afford to make an appointment which will inevitably lead to another surgery.

The constant pain has not only decreased her quality of life but also limited Ms Grant's prospective work pool as she is often unable to find work due to her physical limitations.

Ms Grant is begging for a resolution, claiming her life has been hanging in the balance since that fateful day on January 26, 1988.

"I just want closure. I want to be able to move on with my life and move from that apartment. I can't sleep at night knowing I owe so much and have no way of knowing when I'll ever be able to pay it off.

"Every night I'm on the streets hustling, living from day to day, handout to handout, trying to provide for my daughter. It's always on my mind, where the next meal is coming from and if I'll ever be able to find peace. It's not all about the money, I need the peace of mind. I need a life."

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

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- \* Royal Rangers (Boys Club) 4-16 yrs.
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- \* Spanish Bible Study

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• Community Outreach: 11:30 a.m. • Evening Service: 7:00 p.m.  
• Midweek Service 7:30 p.m. (Wednesdays)  
• Sisters' Prayer Meeting: 10:00 a.m. (2nd Thursday of each month)

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11:00 a.m. Rev. Carla Culmer

Theme: "But As For Me And My Household, We Will Serve the Lord"

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LOCAL NEWS

# Melangé

By JETTA BAPTISTE

AS Minister of State for Immigration Branville McCartney, since August of this year, failed to attend the town hall meeting in Freeport, I would hope that he or someone from his office would answer these questions for us. These are the concerns from the people in Freeport, Grand Bahama.

Many non-Bahamians have lived in the Bahamas for many years, and in some cases their stay has not been documented by Immigration. In the case of Haitians, there is much difficulty in proving residence prior to 1985. Non-Haitians are afforded considerations for Permanent Residence after 10 years, what is the position with Haitian applications in the same category?

What consideration is given to permanent status for the non-Bahamian parents of Bahamian children? By this, I mean those children who were born in the Bahamas of non-Bahamian parents who were granted Bahamian citizenship? Would they be favourably considered for permanent residence?

What is Residence Spouse status and how does it relate to the following: a) Permanent Residence and b) Letters of Comfort?

The general understanding is that letters of comfort are issued to persons who previously held Resident Spouse status. What happens in the following cases:

What happens in cases where the non-Bahamian spouse has never held Residence Spouse status? What consideration will be afforded them as it relates to them residing and working?

Could the provisions of the letter of comfort be extended to include all those spouses of Bahamians who are in need of current status until a position is given on their application for Permanent Residence or citizenship?

What is the waiting time for an answer/position on applications for annual status, home owner permits, spouse permits and permanent residence status?

What are the guidelines for issuing work permits? Is it based on need or is it based on something else?

When applications are refused, why is a reason not given for the refusal?

When applications are refused, and request is made for reconsideration, who deals with it? Is it the same body that made the initial determination in the first place?

What is the correct protocol for dealing with applications for citizenship for persons born in the Commonwealth of the Bahamas to non-Bahamian parents prior to July 10, 1973 and those born after July 10, 1973?

An Immigration Audit was held by former Immigration Minister Elma Campbell, what has been the result of this audit? How many citizenship applications were approved, denied, deferred or are still currently pending?

Why are persons who were born in the Commonwealth of the Bahamas now being advised to apply for a work permit? A work permit to do what? Who will be the boss, who is going to pay for the work permit and how much is it going to cost? For how long will this work permit be valid? Can a person born in the Bahamas be deported if they are granted this work permit if the Immigration department decides to not renew it?

Do you think it is fair or just for a person born in the Commonwealth of the Bahamas to be granted work permits, while those who apply for citizenship born outside the Bahamas gets it without any hassle? What is wrong with this picture and is this a new immigration policy established by you?

Who creates the Immigration policies, is it Cabinet Ministers, or Senior Immigration Officers or other civil servants?

Why are immigration policies not documented for all and sundry to read and refer to on the internet and published elsewhere?

On May 11, 2009, the Prime Minister and yourself spoke to a large group of Immigra-

tion officers, and it was noted that letters would be responded to within 30 days or within a reasonable time frame, and to date, we are currently waiting for responses to letters written to your office more than three months ago, why is there such a delay if you are trying to improve customer service at the Immigration department?

The Constitution of the Bahamas states in Article 10 that foreign women of Bahamian spouses are automatically entitled to Bahamian Citizenship upon making an application — Why has this changed when there was no referendum held to change this provision in the constitution of the Bahamas?

We are a Christian nation, at least, that is what many Bahamians will tell you, yet you and the current government of the Bahamas are prepared to legislate laws that go against what Jesus Christ taught us in the Bible, (Scripture Matthew Chapter 25 verses 31-46).

Do you think legislation passed by parliamentarians should go against what the Bible teaches us? Why are Christians going to be penalised and criminalised for trying to live according to the words of Jesus Christ? Do you see a conflict with some of the legislations that you pass in Parliament when it comes to God's law, as ordained by the Bible?

How many persons applied for work permits and got them during the first five years of the PLP administration, under your current administration and under the FNM government from 1992 to 2002?

How many persons applied for permanent residence status and citizenship and got them during the first five years of the PLP administration, under your current administration and under the FNM government from 1992 to 2002?

For many years there was talk about the Immigration Department launching the "Smart Card" — the electronic work permits, spousal permits, permanent residence cards, etc. When will this take effect? Why is this taking so long? And how much is this process going to cost?

How many Haitians received their citizenship or permanent residency status under the 1985 Treaty/Accord signed between the Haitian and Bahamian government on September 2, 1985?

Are records kept of all the children that were born in the Bahamas to foreign nationals who were deported by both the current government and the former PLP administration?

What provisions are being made to assist those who left the country when they were infants and returned to the Bahamas as adults and are now seeking what they claim to be their "citizenship" to which they feel they are legally entitled?

How many persons have been granted political asylum in the Commonwealth of the Bahamas since July 10, 1973, and what is the current procedure for addressing those who seek political asylum now?

Is the Immigration Department there to protect Bahamian citizen's rights? If so, why do so many Bahamians who have legitimate businesses and NEED, being denied work permits when they make applications for their personal homes, or for their businesses? For example, a man with no legs in a wheelchair applied for a work permit for his worker but was denied three times, even after asking for reconsideration of the application. Why?

Another example is a farm owner applied for permits for three farmer labourers who were out of the country. He presented land papers for 85 acres, a business license, passports and everything the Immigration department asked for, and yet nothing has happened.

And what of the government employee whose maid was asked to go to Haiti to wait for the renewal which never came, more than three years ago? Some spouses of Bahamians are being asked to leave the country in order to get their spousal permit,

## A WEEKLY LOOK AT HAITIAN ISSUES



Jetta Baptiste

why?

Why is the immigration department deporting and not renewing permits for people who have had work permits for so many years?

Why is it that every time a new person comes in as Minister of Immigration, he/she comes up with new policies? And it seems like that these policies are more important than what is found in the constitution regarding Immigration laws?

Is it legal for immigration officers to go to people's home in the middle of the night without search warrants from the courts looking through people's belongings, including in drawers and refrigerators and on some occasions taking what they wanted, including drinks, candies, fruits, jewellery, cell phones, monies, etc?

On Page 2 of the treaty signed between the Haitian and Bahamian governments on September 2, 1985, under Article 2 section (3) it states, "Haitian immigrants illegally resident in the Bahamas and who arrived before December 31, 1980, who do not have criminal records shall be accorded legal status as soon as possible provided that:

- (i) They are working at the date of the signature of this treaty or;
- (ii) They are married to Bahamian citizens or;
- (iii) They own real estate in The Bahamas."

Have these policies changed? If so when, why, and by whom? Is the Immigration Department still operating by some or any of the terms of this Treaty?

In your Budget Communication delivered in the House of Assembly on June 8, 2009, you stated that between the years 2000 and 2008 a grand total of 54,328 illegal immigrants were deported and out of that number, there were 44,614 Haitian nationals, and it cost the Government of the Bahamas more than \$7,941,848.36 in terms of repatriation expenses.

Don't you think if these 54,328 persons' whose status would have been regularized would have brought \$54,328,000 into the public treasury which could have helped the Bahamian people whom you love so much in these hard economic times? This \$54 million figure is a conservative figure because most work permits cost more than \$1,000 each for foreigners. With this \$54 million in the budget the nurses could get their insurance and wage increases, along with the teachers, immigration officers, and so many other civil servants.

With 54,328 potential clients leaving the country, how do you think Bahamian businesses are going to continue to survive in these tough economic times? What is wrong with granting work permits to many of these people who were deported?

• Jetta J. Baptiste is the founding member of the Haitian Bahamian Society of the Bahamas which was formed in July 1987 in Freeport Grand Bahama to improve the relations of Haitians living in the Bahamas. She is the owner operator of JETTA'S MULTI-SERVICE CENTER which she started in April 2003 to the present date in Freeport,

Grand Bahama. She operates a Secretarial Service Office where the following services are provided Translation of Documents, Charter Services to Haiti, Public Relations, Mail Processing, Courier Service, Immigration and Labor Formalities, etc. She works closely with the Haitian, Bahamian and American authorities and other immigrants in the community.

## BAHAMAS ELECTRICITY CORPORATION



### VACANCY NOTICE

#### PUBLIC RELATIONS & CORPORATE PROGRAMS OFFICER HUMAN RESOURCES AND TRAINING

A Vacancy exists in the Corporation for the position of Public Relations & Corporate Programs Officer.

This job is responsible for assisting with the planning, development and implementation of a strategic public relations and communication program together with the effective and efficient planning and execution of all corporate events and activities.

Responsibilities of the position include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Assisting with the development of a strategic Public Relations and Corporate Programs plan to support the Corporation's Mission, Goals and Objectives;
- Overseeing the implementation of the Corporation's annual Public Relations programs, plan and budget;
- Assisting with the communication of all activities throughout the Corporation and where necessary the wider community;
- Preparing and distributing the Corporation's Annual Report;
- Directing press relations, including activities such as the preparation of press releases, photographs, fact sheets, and interviews between executive management and media representatives;
- Coordinating the development and interpretation of employee and public opinion surveys;
- Providing assistance to Executive Management and Government officials in writing speeches, preparing letters and drafting articles to be publicized;
- Evaluating and assessing customer complaints, queries and disseminates information to management;
- Assisting with the development, implementation and management of external communication efforts;
- Coordinating Marketing and all advertising material in collaboration with the external Public Relations Firms and the Media;
- Identifying and liaising with service providers to secure speakers, presenters and entertainment for Corporate events;
- Liaising with vendors on the selection, purchase, delivery of materials i.e. awards, invitations, prizes, letters, BEC paraphernalia, etc. for all events, as necessary and maintain an inventory of the same;
- Preparing and distributing all documentations (e.g. public and staff notices) relative to Corporate activities, as necessary;
- Creating and updating all Standard Operations Procedures for all activities, as necessary;
- Ensuring timely preparation of purchase requisitions and prompt receipt of bills for all events and activities as necessary;
- Working closely with the AGM-Human Resources & Training to ensure that there is global publicity (internal and external), as necessary on all Corporate activities;
- Ensuring that the websites, bulletin boards and other media i.e. company newsletter and Internal PA system are used for the communication of information relative to corporate activities/events.

Job requirements include:

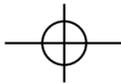
- A minimum of a Bachelors degree in Public Relations/Journalism/Marketing/Business Administration/Business Communication, or equivalent.
- A minimum of 5 years relevant experience at Supervisor/Management level.
- Ability to write speeches, press releases and articles for publication that conform to prescribed style and format;
- Ability to effectively present information to senior and executive management and public groups;
- Ability to disseminate information effectively, both orally and in writing
- Experience in managing special events and activities
- Excellent time management and organizational skills
- Excellent human relations and interpersonal skills
- Computer proficiency in Windows environment and Microsoft applications.
- Good analytical skills.
- Good judgment and sound reasoning ability

Interested persons should apply by completing and returning an Application Form to:

The Assistant Manager, Human Resources Department,  
Bahamas Electricity Corporation, Blue Hill & Tucker,  
P. O. Box N-7509  
Nassau, N.P., The Bahamas

on or before Thursday, November 26, 2009

BISX LISTED & TRADED SECURITIES AS OF: THURSDAY, 19 NOVEMBER 2009											
BISX ALL SHARE INDEX: CLOSE 1,494.49   CHG 0.01   %CHG 0.00   YTD -217.87   YTD % -12.72											
FINDEX: CLOSE 000.00   YTD 00.00%   2008 -12.31%											
WWW.BISXBAHAMAS.COM   TELEPHONE: 242-323-2330   FACSIMILE: 242-323-2320											
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Security	Previous Close	Today's Close	Change	Daily Vol.	EPS \$	Div \$	P/E	Yield	
1.71	1.03	AML Foods Limited	1.17	1.17	0.00	0.127	0.000	9.2	0.00%		
11.80	9.90	Bahamas Property Fund	10.75	10.75	0.00	0.992	0.200	10.8	1.86%		
9.30	5.90	Bank of Bahamas	5.90	5.90	0.00	0.244	0.260	24.2	4.14%		
0.89	0.63	Benchmark	0.63	0.63	0.00	-0.877	0.000	N/M	0.00%		
3.49	3.15	Bahamas Waste	3.15	3.15	0.00	0.125	0.090	25.2	2.86%		
2.37	2.14	Fidelity Bank	2.37	2.37	0.00	0.055	0.040	43.1	1.69%		
14.20	9.92	Cable Bahamas	10.00	10.00	0.00	1.405	0.250	7.1	2.50%		
2.88	2.72	Colina Holdings	2.72	2.72	0.00	0.249	0.040	10.9	1.47%		
7.50	5.26	Commonwealth Bank (S1)	5.74	5.74	0.00	0.419	0.300	13.7	5.23%		
3.85	1.27	Consolidated Water BDRs	2.55	2.55	0.01	0.111	0.052	23.1	2.03%		
2.85	1.32	Doctor's Hospital	2.55	2.55	0.00	0.625	0.080	4.1	3.14%		
8.20	6.28	Famguard	6.50	6.50	0.00	0.420	0.240	15.5	3.65%		
12.50	8.80	Finco	9.30	9.30	0.00	0.322	0.520	28.9	5.59%		
11.71	9.87	FirstCaribbean Bank	9.87	9.87	0.00	0.631	0.350	15.6	3.55%		
5.53	4.11	Food (S)	4.77	4.77	0.00	0.326	0.150	14.6	3.14%		
1.00	1.00	Foocl Class B Preference	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.000	0.000	N/M	0.00%		
0.45	0.27	Freeport Concrete	0.27	0.27	0.00	0.035	0.000	7.7	0.00%		
9.02	5.49	ICD Utilities	5.59	5.59	0.00	0.407	0.500	13.7	8.94%		
12.00	9.95	J. S. Johnson	9.95	9.95	0.00	0.952	0.640	10.5	6.43%		
10.00	10.00	Premier Real Estate	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.156	0.000	64.1	0.00%		
BISX LISTED DEB SECURITIES - (Bonds trade on a Percentage Pricing bases)											
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Security	Symbol	Last Sale	Change	Daily Vol.	Interest	Maturity			
1000.00	1000.00	Fidelity Bank Note 17 (Series A) +	FBB17	100.00	0.00		7%	19 October 2017			
1000.00	1000.00	Fidelity Bank Note 22 (Series B)	FBB22	100.00	0.00		Prime + 1.75%	19 October 2022			
1000.00	1000.00	Fidelity Bank Note 13 (Series C) +	FBB13	100.00	0.00		7%	30 May 2013			
1000.00	1000.00	Fidelity Bank Note 15 (Series D) +	FBB15	100.00	0.00		Prime + 1.75%	29 May 2015			
Fidelity Over-The-Counter Securities											
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Symbol	Bid \$	Ask \$	Last Price	Weekly Vol.	EPS \$	Div \$	P/E	Yield	
14.60	7.92	Bahamas Supermarkets	10.06	11.06	14.00		-2.246	0.000	N/M	0.00%	
8.00	6.00	Caribbean Crossings (Pref)	2.00	6.25	4.00		0.000	0.480	N/M	7.80%	
0.54	0.20	RND Holdings	0.35	0.40	0.35		0.001	0.000	256.6	0.00%	
Colina Over-The-Counter Securities											
41.00	29.00	ABDAE	30.13	31.59	29.00		4.540	0.000	9.03	0.00%	
0.55	0.40	RND Holdings	0.45	0.55	0.55		0.002	0.000	261.90	0.00%	
BISX Listed Mutual Funds											
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Fund Name	NAV	YTD%	Last 12 Months	Div \$	Yield %	NAV Date			
1.4180	1.3419	CFAL Bond Fund	1.4160	4.82	5.53			31-Oct-09			
3.0350	2.8266	CFAL MSI Preferred Fund	2.8266	-3.86	-4.88			31-Oct-09			
1.4999	1.4258	CFAL Money Market Fund	1.4999	4.60				13-Nov-09			
3.5399	2.9343	Fidelity Bahamas G & I Fund	2.9343	-13.33	-17.11			31-Oct-09			
13.2400	12.3870	Fidelity Prime Income Fund	13.2400	4.93	5.90			31-Oct-09			
103.0956	100.0000	CFAL Global Bond Fund	103.0956	3.10	2.52			30-Sep-09			
100.0000	99.4177	CFAL Global Equity Fund	99.4177	3.12	2.76			30-Sep-09			
10.5884	9.4740	Fidelity International Investment Fund	9.4740	4.17				31-Oct-09			
1.0804	1.0000	FG Financial Preferred Income Fund	1.0804	4.32	5.26			31-Oct-09			
1.0364	1.0000	FG Financial Growth Fund	1.0269	-0.59	-0.19			31-Oct-09			
1.0742	1.0000	FG Financial Diversified Fund	1.0742	3.56	4.42			31-Oct-09			
MARKET TERMS											
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 months											
NAV - Net Asset Value											
N/M - Not Meaningful											
FINDEX - The Fidelity Bahamas Stock Index, January 1, 1994 = 100											
TO TRADE CALL: COLINA 242-502-7010   ROYALFIDELITY 242-356-7764   FG CAPITAL MARKETS 242-396-4000   COLONIAL 242-502-7525											



# sports

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2009

INSIDE • International sports news



## Devard 'can't wait to get back on the field'

By BRENT STUBBS  
Senior Sports Reporter  
bstubbs@tribunemedia.net

KANSAS City Chiefs' wide receiver Devard Darling can't wait to get back on the field in the National Football League.

Darling, who is in town for the funeral service yesterday for his uncle Frank Rutherford Sr., has been placed on the injured reserve list after he suffered a torn ACL in August when the Chiefs were playing the Seattle Seahawks.

"I'm just rehabbing right now, everyday just going hard," said Darling in an interview with The Tribune yesterday. "I'm doing a lot of strengthening and agility and stuff like that."

"I haven't been able to jog yet. I will probably start jogging next week. Everything is going well right now. I had a check up with the doctor last year and he said everything is going very well."

Now into his sixth season and the second of his current three-year deal with Kansas City after being traded from the Baltimore Ravens in 2007, said it's been a difficult process for him having to watch the action from the sidelines.

"I really miss it," he said. "I really can't wait to get back out there. It's very frustrating."

But the 27-year-old Darling, who stands at 6-foot-1 and weigh about 213 pounds, said he know that it's going to be a long and tedious task in his road to a comeback when he hope to get "stronger and faster."

So far this year, the Chiefs have been woeful, sporting a 2-7 win-loss record, identical to the Oakland Raiders as they sit at the bottom of the pile in the AFC West after they snapped a two-game losing streak by beating Oakland 16-10 on November 10.

Darling said he's a little surprised at their performance.

"I hope they can pick it up the second half, especially on the offensive side," Darling said. "We just need to get some wins under our belt and hopefully build on next season."

Kansas City will host the Pittsburgh Steelers on Sunday.

Looking at the rest of the teams in the NFL, Darling said it's always a competitive league and the good teams are the ones who are currently where they are at the top of the standings.

He mentioned the undefeated Indianapolis Colts, the New Orleans Saints, also undefeated, and the Minnesota Vikings, all of whom he noted are working very hard week after week.

"I just think that the team that ants it the most are the ones who are performing very well," Darling said. "But it's still not over yet. It's still a long way to go because the season is over, so anything could happen."

Like the Miami Dolphins still in quest for a playoff spot after they pulled even at 3-3 with a 24-17 win over the Carolina Panthers on Thursday night.

Darling, who would love to end up playing in South Florida because of the close proximity to home, said they're a scrappy team that you really can't count out until the "fat lady" sings.

"With (Bill) Parcells and coach leading the way, they are still a force,"

SEE page 10



PICTURED from left are Dennis Darling, Frank Rutherford and Devard Darling.

# Dennis Darling eager for results of BAAA elections

By BRENT STUBBS  
Senior Sports Reporter  
bstubbs@tribunemedia.net

FORMER Olympic quarter-miler turned collegiate coach Dennis Darling said he's eager to see the results of the Bahamas Association of Athletic Associations' general meeting at their annual general meeting today.

The elections will take place at 9 am at the Ministry of Education on Thompson Boulevard. Incumbent president Curt Hollingsworth will be challenged by immediate past president Mike Sands.

While Darling declined to say who would like to see in office, he did indicate that he hope that "the best man would come out on top to take the association forward."

"I definitely have my opinion and I would rather keep it to myself," he told The Tribune. "But I hope the best man win and whoever gets in, will get the BAAA to step up. They have a big job ahead of them. But I just want the best man to win and they are there for the right reason and do what is right for the programme, especially the junior and senior athletes."

programme, especially the junior and senior athletes."

Darling, a two-time Olympian and four-time member of the World Championship team, is in town along with his brother NFL wide receiver Devard Darling. They attended the funeral service yesterday of their uncle Frank Rutherford Sr, father of Olympic and World Indoor Championships triple jump bronze medalist.

"I can't complain," said Darling, the assistant coach at Texas Christian University with the Flyin' Frogs. "TCU has had a rich tradition before I got there and so I just hope to help them to continue to build on it."

"I have a lot of young girls, a lot of young talent, so I have a lot of work cut out for me. But we definitely have the talent to be a top 10 school, especially in the women's division. So that's my goal this year. To go out there and be top ten in the nation."

While TCU doesn't have any Bahamians on their Flyin' Frogs' roster, Darling said he's definitely looking for some talent to take with him to Texas. But he said he's not going to rush it.

"The school that I was at, I left quarter-miler Juan Lewis there. He's been doing good there and since I've relocated there and there's a possibility of that I can look for some talent from the Bahamas."

"But I have the chance to go out and recruit the best talent that is available in the nation. But if it means that I have some talent here that I can take a look at, I'll be happy to come home and do that."

The Flyin' Frogs are currently fourth in the nation in NCAA football and Darling said he's hoping that he can assist head coach Darryl Anderson in making the track and field another dynamic athletic entity.

Darling, who graduated from the University of Houston in 2000 where he was selected as the Conference USA Indoor Men's Athlete of the Year for the second time in his career after receiving the same honour during his junior campaign.

Darling was also a four-time All-American with the Cougars and captured All-American honors during both the indoor and outdoor seasons in his freshman year and in 1999, he was the Mentor of the Year by

**"But I hope the best man win and whoever gets in, will get the BAAA to step up. They have a big job ahead of them."**

Dennis Darling

EXCEL Programme, which matched up incoming freshmen with senior mentors during the academic year.

Before he went to TCU, the alma mater of middle distance runner William 'Knucklehead' Johnson (now the head track coach of the Big Red Machines at St. Augustine's College), Darling served as the head coach of the Texas-Pan American, having been promoted from the ranks as the Broncos' assistant coach from 2006-07.

# Lady Truckers hold on to beat Queens 76-60

By BRENT STUBBS  
Senior Sports Reporter  
bstubbs@tribunemedia.net

WHILE former champions Bommer G Lady Angels stayed undefeated with a lopsided victory, defending champions Johnson's Lady Truckers had to hold on for their first win in the New Providence Women's Basketball Association.

Last night at the DW Davis Gymnasium, the Lady Angels had no mercy on the All-Stars as they used their wealth of experience to demolish the youthful All-Stars 111-25. The game was over before it got started.

But in the ladies' feature contest, the Lady Truckers used a 13-0 spurt in the middle of the fourth quarter as they pulled away from a slim 58-57 margin for a 71-57 advantage with about two

minutes left to secure a 76-60 win over the Electro Telecom Cybots Queens.

"It's a step in the right direction," said Lady Truckers' coach James Price as they climbed to the .500 mark at 1-1, coming off their season opening loss to the Lady Angels.

"If you noticed that the game got a little out of hand, but we managed to get t back together. We just need to make a little more adjustment on our defence and we'll be okay."

It was Johnson's defence or the lack thereof that made it a rather exciting game as the Cybots Queens, who remained winless at 0-2 after losing their season opener to the Sunshine Auto Lady Cheetahs on opening day.

After taking a 23-10 lead at the end of the first quarter that they stretched to 43-30

at the half, the Lady Truckers didn't have an answer as the Cybots Queens rallied to make it a contest at the end of the third quarter.

In fact, they came within one, 48-47, midway in the period and although they never tied it or taken the lead, the Cybots Queens were only down by three, 55-52, to the Lady Truckers at the final break.

However, in the fourth, Electro Telecom got a pair of free throws from Varel Davis and a three-pointer from Christine Sinclair that brought them within one, 58-57, in less than one minute play to start the fourth.

From there, the Lady Truckers went on their 13-0 tear and only allowed the Cybots Queens to three points the rest of the game as they went on to hold on for the win.

Chantelle Rolle and Janice Williams led Johnson's attack with 23 and 21 points respectively. Glenda Gilcud was held to just nine, while her daughter Rickia King had seven. Latoya Rolle and Stacy Horton both chipped in with four.

Although she had to deal with the relentless defense from Latoya Rolle, speedy Christine Sinclair managed to break away for a game high 29. Varel Davis finished with 11, Garcia Butler had eight and Samacia Barr added six.

**Lady Angels 111, All-Stars 25:**

Coach Sharelle Cash knew that once her youthful All-Stars trailed 23-6 at the end of the first quarter and 54-6 at the half, she knew that it was going to be a long night.

What she didn't anticipate

was the final score.

Cash, who opted not to play with the Lady Angels as she concentrated on coaching, said it was hard pill to swallow when take the final score in consideration.

"I think they know, like I told them, that it's like taking a baby away from her mother," Cash said. "We don't want to damper the young girls' spirit. That score was outrageous. I didn't appreciate it, even though I play with them. I really didn't like that. That score was ridiculous."

For the Lady Angels, Keva Barry exploded for a game high 21 points, leading a balanced scoring attack that saw Suzette 'Sleepy' McKenzie and Shanae Armbrister score 16 apiece.. Chrishandra Kelly and Keisha Smith both had 14, Keisha Richardson 13 and Alexandria 'Shaq' McQuay

nine.

The All-Stars were led by Hattie Grant with 12. Mackeiera Gibson had seven and Britenique Harrison helped out with four in a losing effort.

Coach Cash said every year she's going through a rebuilding process as she tries to get as many of her players off to school on athletic scholarships. The final score was an indication of the growing pain her team is experiencing.

"I only have one person who came back from last year," Cash said. "Everybody else has already moved on. So it's a work in progress, so we have to keep going at it."

Cash said if she can get her players to communicate with each other on the floor, they would be able to play a lot better. But she said they would have to chalk this one up to a learning experience.



## SPORTS

# Ricky Williams a workhorse once again

**FOOTBALL  
DAVIE, Fla.  
Associated Press**

RICKY WILLIAMS is having his best season since retiring.

That was in 2004, when a marijuana habit drove Williams out of the NFL. The following year he began a comeback that proceeded fitfully because of Miami Dolphins coaching changes, a season-ending injury and an 18-month suspension.

The Dolphins stuck with Williams, and now he might just save their season. Picking up the slack for injured starter Ronnie Brown, the 32-year-old Williams totaled 221 yards rushing in two games over a five-day stretch, and Miami (5-5) won both to reach .500 for the first time this year.

"It puts us on the right track," Williams said. "We have been trying to get here all year, and we finally got here. It's just the next step to where we want to go."

Williams is leading the way. Making his first start of the year in Thursday's 24-17 victory at Carolina, he rushed for 119 yards and two scores and added a 14-yard touchdown catch. It was his second three-TD game this season, and the first time in his career he

day's game.

Instead, teammates gushed about him. Younger players seemed especially tickled to see him trample Panthers.

"He has been here for a long time, and he knows what he's doing," receiver Ted Ginn Jr. said. "When he sees something, he was just trying to run through. That was what he was taught to do as a young 'un."

Sparano said he's confident Williams can handle a starter's workload the rest of the season, and the Dolphins really have no choice but to rely heavily on their only thirtysomething offensive player.

Brown underwent season-ending surgery Friday on his broken right foot. Williams' backup, second-year pro Lex Hilliard, had his first career rushing attempt Thursday night. And the passing attack ranks third-worst in the league. That means Williams, seven years removed from his NFL rushing title, will try to carry Miami to the playoffs.

"It's hard to replace Ronnie Brown," Hartline said. "But Ricky Williams is still Ricky Williams."

Even with limited playing time this season, Williams is on pace for his first 1,000-yard season since 2003. He's averaging a career-best 5.3 yards per carry. And he ranks



Rick Havner/AP Photo

MIAMI Dolphins' Ricky Williams (34) runs past Carolina Panthers' Damione Lewis (92) and Jon Beason (52) on a 46-yard touchdown in the second half of an NFL football game in Charlotte, N.C., Thursday, Nov. 19, 2009.

**"When he sees something, he was just trying to run through. That was what he was taught to do as a young 'un."**

Ted Ginn Jr.

scored rushing and receiving in the same game.

"I was really impressed with Ricky," coach Tony Sparano said Friday. "He did a tremendous job. He ran the ball hard, really hard."

Williams scored once as Brown's replacement taking the snap in the wildcat. He scored on a 46-yard dash to seal the win, outrunning the Panthers' secondary to the end zone. He carried 22 times — not a lot for a back who once had 392 attempts in a season, but his highest total in four years.

The 100-yard game was Williams' 22nd with Miami, extending his franchise record. He's the oldest 100-yard rusher in team history.

"He's not 32, I don't care what he says," rookie receiver Brian Hartline said. "He definitely doesn't look 32 out there, and he definitely has a lot of gas left in his wheels."

Williams never fit the mold of the typical NFL player, and that's still the case. Last spring he agreed to a contract extension for 2010 without an agent or negotiations. Working toward a college degree, he wants to become an osteopath. He's so particular about his diet that Sparano laughingly speaks of "Ricky food."

And Williams remains skittish with the media.

"I don't like talking about myself," he said after Thurs-

among NFL leaders with 10 touchdowns.

At Charlotte, Williams thrived behind a patchwork front. Four Miami offensive linemen left the game with injuries, and the Dolphins used three centers, including one moved from tackle who had not practiced snaps.

"It's tough," Williams said. "Guys are dropping like flies."

"We were down to me going in the game," said Sparano, a former center. "I've never seen anything like it."

Sparano provided no update Friday on the severity of the injuries. Players have the weekend off before beginning preparations to play the Buffalo Bills on Nov. 29.

"We'll get a chance to heal up," Sparano said. "Right now the boys need a bit of rest."

Even Williams "got a little bit dinged" in the fourth quarter but was expected to be fine, Sparano said. The most serious injury appeared to be to nose tackle Jason Ferguson, who hurt his right knee and underwent an MRI.

Despite the heavy toll, Sparano was in a cheerful mood Friday. After winning three games in the first 63 days of the season, the Dolphins won twice in five days, and they're only one victory behind AFC East leader New England.

"There's a lot of football left," Sparano said.

## NFL players getting hooked on fantasy football

**FOOTBALL  
NEW YORK  
Associated Press**

FANTASY and reality collided at the 1-yard line for Maurice Jones-Drew.

The Jacksonville Jaguars running back passed up a sure touchdown and took a knee before the goal line, helping seal a win against the New York Jets last Sunday. It also made thousands of frustrated fantasy football owners pound their heads against their laptops.

Jones-Drew knows how they felt. He cost himself a win in his own fantasy league.

"I was actually apologizing to myself," he said. "I have myself. It was all in fun. I know a lot of people were affected by it from what I hear."

Chicago Bears kicker Robbie Gould was one of them. He "owns" Jones-Drew in the NFL Players Association league, which includes seven NFL players and a fan. Gould's Team Automatic lost to Carolina running back DeAngelo Williams' Memphis MudSlingers, thanks in part to Jones-Drew's kneel-down.

"I'm just glad he apologized," a joking Gould said. "I probably would have won, so MJD's got to score an extra one for me this week."

Fantasy football leagues aren't just for fans anymore. An increasing number of NFL players are hopping on their computers and agonizing over their lineups — should I start Tom Brady or Brett Favre?

"I got addicted," Minnesota backup running back Albert Young said.

Think your fantasy drafts are intense? Imagine what happens when a group of NFL players gets together.

"Matt Forte picked me before I had a chance to pick myself," Gould said of his Chicago teammate. "He has half the Bears team."

Adam Caplan, an NFL reporter for Scout.com, is in his sixth year co-hosting a fantasy football show on Sirius NFL Radio. He estimated that about a quarter of the 60-70 players he has interviewed over the last few years participate in fantasy leagues.

"But almost all of them know what it is," Caplan said, "because at the very least, their friends and family play."

That's something Atlanta tight end Tony Gonzalez can attest to, because he hears all about it every Monday.

"They've all got me," he said. "It's like, 'Did you score?' They try to sit me down like they're my coach: 'If you're not going to perform, I'm going to have to cut you. I'm going to have to sit you down this week.'"

## Devard 'can't wait to get back on the field'

FROM page nine

Darling said. "With Ronnie Brown out, Ricky Williams has stepped up and he's doing what is expected of him. So they are a strong scrappy team. They will be right there at the end."

As for Darling, he said his only quest right now is to get back on the field.

"That's what I'm anxious about," he said. "I want to make sure that I'm strong and ready to go."

Darling, however, will have to wait until the spring to find out just exactly what will happen for him as he goes into the third and final year of his contract with the Kansas City Chiefs.

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

### Death of Drew Brees' mother ruled a suicide

**FOOTBALL  
GRANBY, Colo.  
Associated Press**

THE DEATH of the mother of New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees has been ruled a suicide.

Mina Brees, an attorney from Austin, Texas, died Aug. 7 while visiting Colorado. Grand County coroner Brenda Bock concluded this week that the 59-year-old Brees died of a prescription drug overdose and ruled the death a suicide.

Bock said Brees died while staying at the home of a friend in Granby near Rocky Mountain National Park.

It took longer than three months for autopsy results to be released, but Bock said that's typical for cases involving toxicology tests.

The Austin American Statesman reported that three days before Brees died, the Texas attorney general's office subpoenaed her business records.

She had allegedly sent letters to some restaurants in Austin and Houston stating that they had lost their rights to use their names to a company she represented, Chicksports, but they could win the rights back by paying up to \$25,000. She was also the president of Chicksports but that wasn't mentioned in the letter.

Relations between Drew Brees and his mother were strained at times and the quarterback asked her to stop using his picture in TV commercials touting her candidacy for a Texas appeals court seat in 2006.

## Germany and Canada win WC skeleton races

**SKELETON RACING  
LAKE PLACID, N.Y.  
Associated Press**

THE home-ice advantage for the U.S. skeleton team vanished for the second straight week in World Cup competition and Canada and Germany took advantage in the snowless Adirondack Mountains.

With the Winter Olympics in Canada less than three months away, Frank Rommel led a 1-2 German finish in the men's race on Friday at Mount Van Hoevenberg, only hours after Mellisa Hollingsworth had won gold for Canada in the women's event.

"It was a strong team performance," Rommel said after the Germans took three of the top six spots. "We have a good team."

"I think they're trying to

send a message," U.S. slider Noelle Pikus-Pace, the top U.S. finisher in fifth behind Hollingsworth. "This season is really critical. Everybody is out for that gold medal and coming out strong. This is the most competitive season we've had since I've been a part of the sport. It's very, very tough competition."

The victory was sweet redemption for Rommel, who won four World Cup races last season before struggling to 13th place in the skeleton world championships here. He posted the fastest times on both runs to easily beat teammate Sandro Stielicke in the second race of the World Cup season.

Rommel finished in 1 minute, 50.88 seconds, nearly a half-second ahead of Stielicke.

"It's kind of revenge for last year's world championships

here," Rommel said. "It wasn't my race then. This time I knew how to take care of myself. I'm quite happy to bring it all together today."

Stielicke finished in 1:51.36, followed by Martins Dukurs of Latvia, who won the World Cup opener a week ago at Park City, Utah. Dukurs took the bronze, just 0.01 seconds behind Stielicke, and Dukurs' brother Tomass was fourth in 1:51.50.

The top U.S. finisher was Eric Bernotas in fifth at 1:51.71, followed by Zach Lund in 10th at 1:52.14, and rookie John Daly 11th at 1:52.15 in just his second career World Cup race.

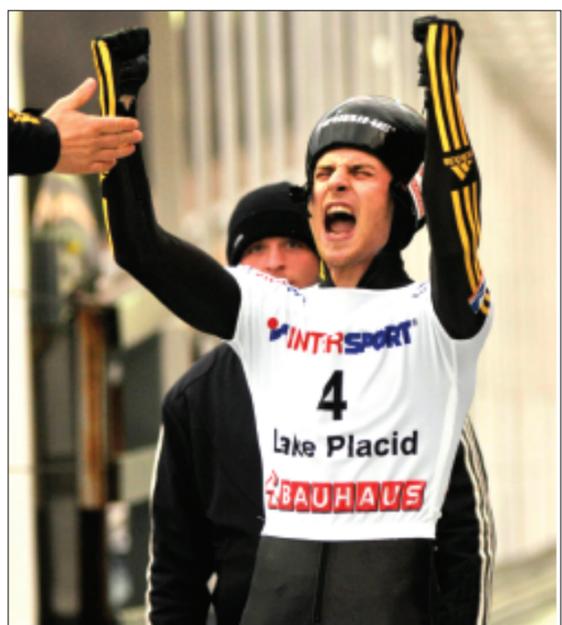
In two races, the top finish by the American men has been a fifth in each event. Blame it on Mother Nature.

The opener at Park City was plagued by heavy snow. On Friday, sliders faced a soft

track because of a steady overnight rain and temperatures in the 40s. That left some water on the course and made the race much different from the fast conditions that prevailed during a week of training.

"The soft ice takes a little bit of the home-track advantage away," said Lund, who's been nursing a sore hamstring. "We've had a spate of bad luck at our home tracks with the weather for our sliding styles. When it's harder, you have more speed, and the more speed helps you make up time down the track. That's just racing."

Still, the 24-year old Daly was ecstatic. He posted the second- and third-best starts among the 23 competitors and even beat Canadian Jeff Pain, a former World Cup champion and the silver medalist at the 2006 Turin Olympics.



Lou Reuter/AP Photo

GERMANY'S Frank Rommel reacts after his second run in the men's World Cup Skeleton competition on Friday, Nov. 20, 2009, in Lake Placid, N.Y. Rommel finished in first.

LOCAL NEWS

NASSAU HERITAGE PROJECT

COB and Florida students discuss digital mapping project for Nassau

ARCHITECTURE students from the College of the Bahamas and Florida A&M University gathered at Fort Charlotte to discuss a digital mapping project for Nassau.

The Nassau Heritage Project is sponsored by the Antiquities, Monuments and Museums Corporation. Students will create a computerised database of the town including three-dimensional models of its key historic structures.

The project is being undertaken in conjunction with the Bahamas National Geographic Information System Centre, the Albany development, the Department of Archives and the Downtown Nassau Partnership.

State Minister for Culture Charles Maynard told the gathering that he had recently visited Germany, which was celebrating the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. "I was impressed with the revitalisation of this formerly divided city, meshing the historical with the modern. We should be trying to achieve the same thing here. This partnership will help tremendously in achieving the AMMC's mandate as it relates to the city of Nassau, and 20 years from now you could say you were at the starting gate."

A Geographic Information System captures and stores a wide range of geo-reference data electronically, allowing proposed changes to be evaluated by planners and business people. Some 450 properties in downtown Nassau on Bay Street and Over-the-Hill will be included in the heritage database, and students will collect field information on significant historic structures.

The project is aimed at furthering the appreciation and protection of Nassau's heritage resources.

An AMMC spokesman said: "This is an innovative partnership designed to train Bahamian students in digital mapping and ensure that historical information can be easily included in development planning. We also want to raise public interest in



STATE HERITAGE SECTOR officials pictured with COB and FAMU architecture students at Fort Charlotte. Front row from left: AMMC director Keith Tinker; Grace Turner, museum specialist at the AMMC; Dr Andrew Chin, director of architecture programmes at FAM; Henry Hepburn, architecture professor at COB; Vaughn Roberts, of the Downtown Nassau Partnership; architect Jackson Burnside; Alicia Oxley, preservation architect at the AMMC; State Culture Minister Charles Maynard; Caroline Albury of the Bahamas National Geographic Information System Centre; Dr James Miller, archaeological consultant to the AMMC.

these special places that make Nassau what it is."

This focus on historic resources will ensure that those elements which give Nassau its unique and valuable character can be readily included in planning and development efforts.

Although many of the town's historic structures have already been identified, site information has been scattered and difficult to access. Now, modern photos and videos, historic photographs and maps, text descriptions and other information about the selected buildings can be incorporated into the database and made widely available.

Bahamian students from FAMU and the COB will have an opportunity to work with local experts like architect Jackson Burnside and developer Orjan Lindroth to gain a better understanding of their own nation-

al heritage. "For three centuries Nassau has been the cultural and economic heart of The Bahamas, and the generations have left their public spaces, their streets and stairs, their churches, stores and dwellings to make the special place that is Nassau.

"It is the goal of our project to recognise and respect those tangible remains so that Nassau's past will always be part of its future," the AMMC spokesman said.

The co-operation between COB and FAMU is designed to improve the capacity of the COB architecture programme in computerised applications and emphasising the unique Bahamian architectural heritage. At the same time, FAMU can further strengthen its attraction for COB students to continue their architectural studies in Florida. FAMU arranges in-state tuition rates for Bahamian students, a significant cost savings.

Canadian High Commissioner designate presents Letters of Introduction to DPM



BIS PHOTO: Kristaan Ingraham PICTURED FROM LEFT: Mr Hallihan presents Letters of Introduction to Deputy Prime Minister Brent Symonette.

HIS Excellency Stephen Hallihan, non-resident High Commissioner Designate to Canada, formally presented his Letter of Introduction to Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Brent Symonette during a courtesy call at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, West Bay Street.

Mr Hallihan also paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham, leader of the Opposition Perry Christie and members of the Diplomatic Corps.

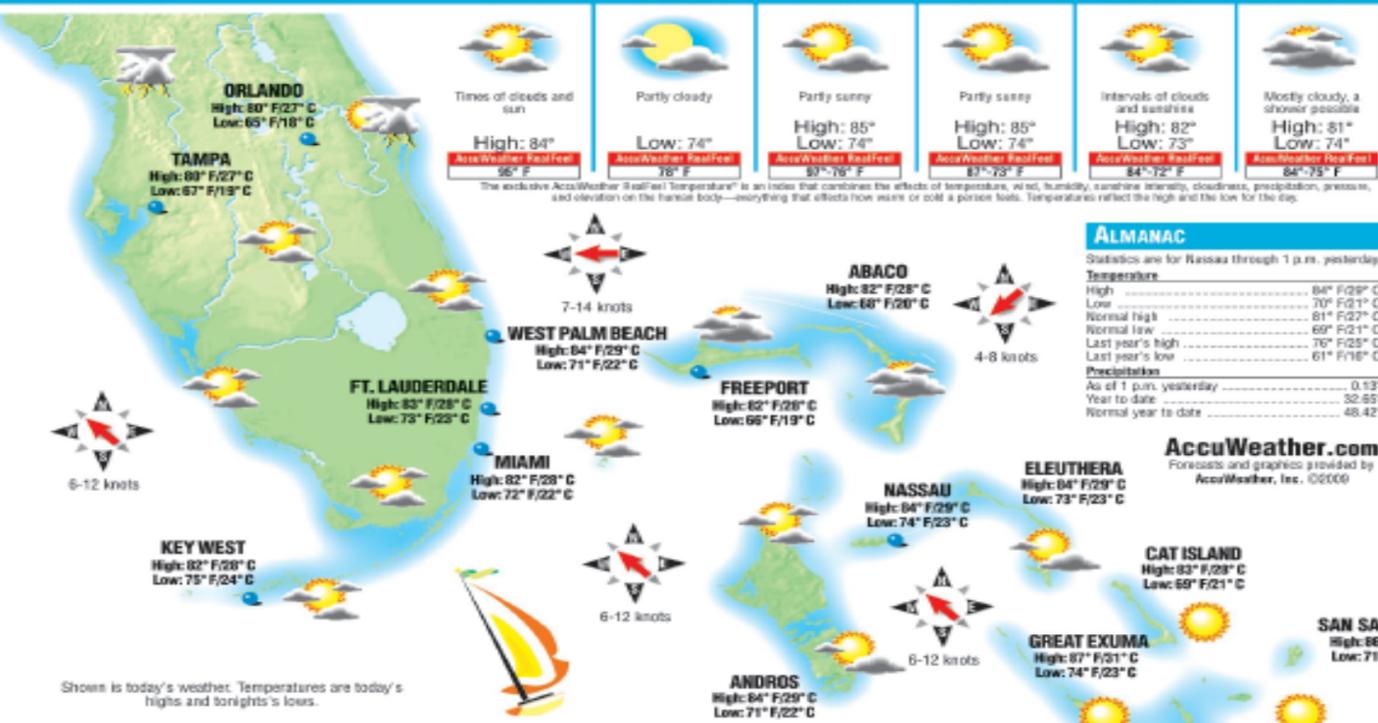
Mr Hallihan joined the Canadian forces in 1972 and has held a variety of command and staff appointments, including a tour as a peacekeeper in Cyprus, and extensive service in Europe. In 1983, he joined the Canadian International Development Agency and held a series of programme planning and managing appointments, including field postings in Malawi and South Africa.

He has held a number of positions in Ottawa, including senior policy advisor in the Privy Council office, director general of strategic change with the Department of National Defence and director general of the Afghanistan Task Force at the Canadian International Development Agency.

He is currently director general of the Afghanistan Task Force in the Privy Council Office.

THE WEATHER REPORT

5-DAY FORECAST



UV INDEX TODAY



TIDES FOR NASSAU

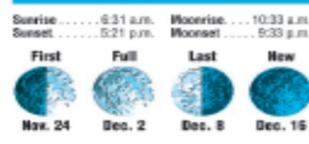
Table with columns for High, HI (H.), Low, and LI (L.) for each day of the week. Includes times in a.m. and p.m.

ALMANAC

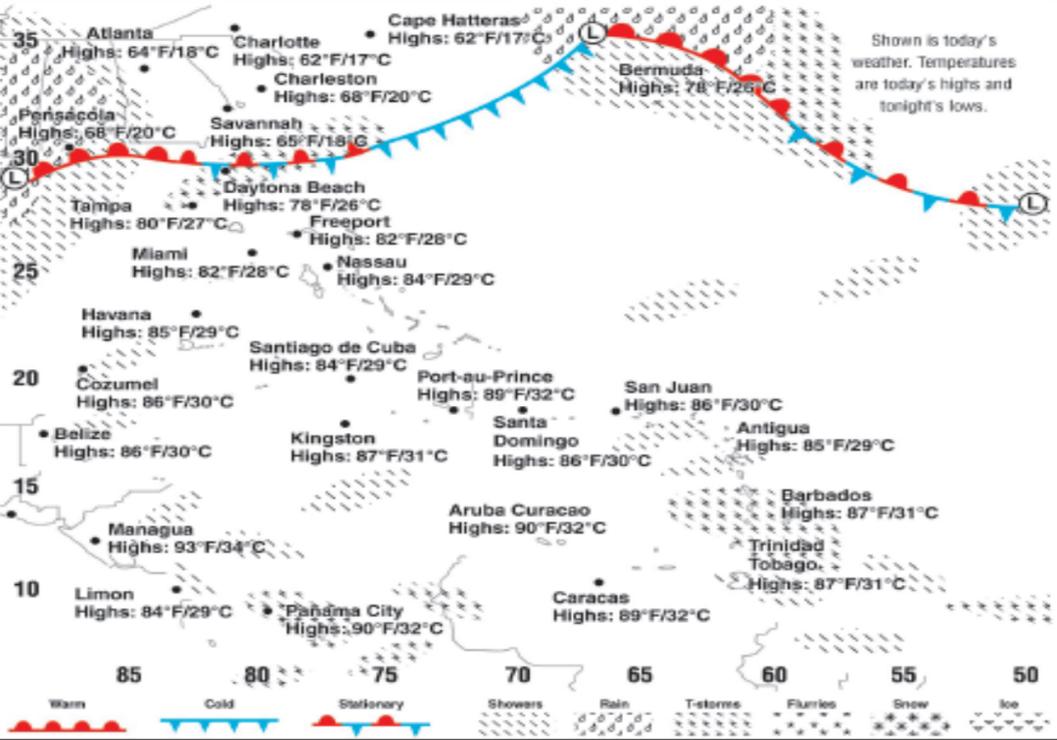
Almanac statistics for Nassau through 1 p.m. yesterday, including temperature, wind, and precipitation data.

AccuWeather.com. Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. 02000

SUN AND MOON



INSURANCE MANAGEMENT TRACKING MAP



MARINE FORECAST

Table with columns for location, wind, waves, visibility, and water temperature for various islands and locations.

Advertisement for INSURANCE MANAGEMENT (BAHAMAS) LIMITED. Insurance Brokers & Agents. Includes a logo and contact information.

## LOCAL NEWS



- Two models flank Next generation Design Award winner from Trinidad- London Darcel De Vlugt •

NASSAU transformed into a fashion capital as the Islands of the World Fashion Week opened last Thursday with the Model Muse Search Finals at the Sheraton Cable Beach Resort.

The 16 finalists from around the Caribbean strutted their stuff on the runway in swimwear, casual wear and evening wear.

The winners were declared by the judges - fashion business insider Susan Stein, Luis Sarmiento of IMG NY, Wayne Sterling, co-founder of models.com and international model Bobby Roache. Kendrick Kemp of the Bahamas and Giovara Geertruida of Curacao were the male and female winners of the competition, respectively.

Next generation designers showed off their creations on the first day of fashion week.

Phylicia Ellis, Sabrina Sturupp and Kevin Evans of the Bahamas, as well as Darcel De Vlugt from Trinidad saw their designs modelled on the catwalk, followed by international guest designer, widely known from her appearance on "Project Runway", Leanna Marshall.

After the runway show, everyone was ready to party in style at the opening reception at the Balmoral. Models, journalists, photographers and fashion industry insiders enjoyed drinks and hors d'oeuvres. It was a truly fabulous opening of a fashion event which boasted fierce models working the catwalk, fantastic designs and great parties.

Murielle Leconte of Haiti left a lasting impression with her colourful designs of men's wear, women's wear, handbags and accessories. Harl Taylor BAG showed the beautifully crafted designs of the late Harl Taylor, which was followed by Eric Raisina of Madagascar who also showed a beautiful collection representing the diverse cultural heritage of his native African island. Guest designer was B Michael, famous for designing for Michelle Obama.

Next on the agenda were the coveted awards presented by Owen Bethell and the model search winners. The award for "Sustainable Eco-Fashion", recognising environmental issues, was given to Eric Raisina. The "Culture and Fashion" award, for the designer who best incorporated a uniquely cultural element into a garment, was awarded to Jessie-Ann Jessamy of Grenada. The "Next Gen Designer" award including an internship with an internationally recognised designer went to Darcel De Vlugt of Trinidad for her "Mad Hatters Tea Party" collection. The final award for humanitarian work was presented to the Swedish brand H&M.

Islands of the World Fashion Week 2009 came to a close with pool-side fireworks and an after-party in the Sheraton ballroom where everyone got together, danced and had a great time before saying their good-byes.

# OUT & ABOUT

IN THE 242



- Two models on the catwalk for designer Darcel De Vlugt •



- A model sporting I Candy Swimwear •



- Actor-model-singer Kirk Brown, IMG's Louise Sarmiento and Bobby Roache •



- A handbag designed by the late Harl Taylor on display •

- Model Muse Search winner Giovara Geertruida from Curacao •



- NY hair stylist Omar Lopez and Heike •

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