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Volume: 107 No.244

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2011

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FEATURES

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ROADMASTERS HEAD TO BERLIN

## OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME

SEE SPORTS SECTION E



### AFTER MURDER COUNT HITS 100, POLICE COMMISSIONER SAYS . . .

# Punishments 'are too light'

CRIME NEWS

## WOMEN STABBED IN HEAD IN TWO HOME INVASIONS

TWO women have been stabbed in the head in separate home invasions.

The first victim, a married resident of Blair Estates, had stayed home from church on Sunday morning when she was assaulted.

The woman, said to be in her fifties, was in her garden when an intruder entered her home.

When she went inside at around 11am, the intruder attacked and stabbed her in her head.

She was later found badly injured by the family's gardener and taken to hospital.

During a walkabout in the area yesterday, police collect-

SEE page two

By SANCHESKA BROWN



'HARSHER PUNISHMENT': Commissioner Ellison Greenslade  
Tim Clarke/Tribune staff

AFTER a bloody weekend that pushed the murder count over 100 for the first time in Bahamian history, the commissioner of police called for harsher punishment for serious crimes.

Asked at a press conference whether the police are doing enough to stop the bloodshed, Commissioner Ellison Greenslade said his officers are arresting suspects, but after a person is charged it is out of their hands and up to the courts.

Saying he did not wish to speak on the issue in too much detail, Mr Greenslade said he is not sure criminals are taking the law seriously because the punishments are too light. He pointed specifically to gun crimes.

"I believe sanctions should be such that I would not want to have a gun. I would not as a Bahamian want to be caught with a gun in a country

where a gun is illegal because of the fear that I am going to be in big trouble and I am going to be away from my family and friends for a very long time," he said.

"I want to be very careful

SEE page eight

### RENALDO REACHES 19TH BIRTHDAY MILESTONE AGAINST THE ODDS

RENALDO GIBSON celebrated his 19th birthday at home with close friends and relatives yesterday. He is pictured below with his mom, grandmother and cousin.



By AVA TURNQUEST  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
aturnquest@tribunemedia.net

RENALDO Gibson celebrated his 19th birthday yesterday. The milestone is a feat that was considered impossible after he was completely paralysed by a car accident three years ago.

Renaldo's clear voice and confident gestures were testimony to his family's unwillingness to give up on his recovery and his own conviction to realise his goals.

Unassisted by a ventilator, the teenager maintained his positive and humble demeanour as he reclined surrounded by loved ones at his family home in Fox Hill.

SEE page eight

### CITY MARKET STAFF: TREAT US LIKE HUMAN BEINGS OR LET US GO

By SANCHESKA BROWN

CITY MARKET employees are now agitating to be laid off, after they say there is no way they can survive off the "tiny" pay cheques they are currently receiving.

More than 50 employees from the Sea Grapes, Cable Beach and South Beach locations gathered outside the Harbour Bay food store yesterday, demanding the Finalyson Group treat them like human beings or let them go and give them their pensions.

Eliazer Rolle, an employee at the Harbour Bay location, said all they want is what

SEE page six

### 70-YEAR-OLD WOMAN TELLS COURT OF RAPE ORDEAL

By DENISE MAYCOCK  
Tribune Freeport Reporter  
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT - A 70-year-old woman told the Supreme Court on Monday that a 26-year-old male dragged her into his bedroom, took off her clothing and raped her last December.

A jury of seven women and two men are hearing testimony in the rape trial of Eric Oneil Strachan, who is charged with two counts of rape, two counts of attempted rape and one count of indecent assault.

The incident is alleged to have occurred on December 10, 2010, at Andros Town, Eight Mile Rock.

Senior Justice Hartman Longley presides over the case. Prosecutors Erica Kemp and

SEE page eight

### MAN AND WOMAN INJURED IN DOUBLE SHOOTING

POLICE confirmed the double shooting of a man and woman in Nassau Village last night.

Both of the victims were taken to hospital after the incident, which happened shortly after 7pm. The man is said to be in serious condition, while the woman is listed as stable.



Wulf Road  
"The Block People"



**Employee Profile - Patrice Cooper Sr. Salesperson**  
The dictionary defines "Efficient" as "Being effective without wasting time or effort." Patrice Cooper, Senior Salesperson at JBR Building Supplies is definitely efficient. Having been a top salesperson for most of her 17 year tenure at JBR, Patrice believes in giving customers what they want and getting them on their way as quickly as possible. Just ask the many customers who affectionately call her "Theace". And, she really "moves her stuff" when it comes to building supplies and hardware. Fast, knowledgeable, courteous, efficient... that's Patrice Cooper

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LOCAL NEWS

# WOMEN STABBED IN HEAD IN TWO HOME INVASIONS

FROM page one

ed a pair of shoes from a neighbour's yard which are suspected to belong to the attacker.

The second victim was asleep at her home in southern New Providence when she was wakened by an armed intruder at 3.45 am yesterday.

The pair got into a fight and the woman was stabbed in her head and sexually assaulted.

Police believe the woman knew her attacker, although both attacks were not committed by the same person. Both women were in hospital in stable condition yesterday.

In other crime news, police arrested a 20-year-old man who led officers on a high speed chase through Collins Avenue.

A search of the suspect's car revealed ammunition hidden under the driver's seat, police said.

Officers noticed the driver of a gold coloured 1998 Honda Accord acting suspiciously as they patrolled the Palmdale area.

When they tried to stop the car, the driver sped off and led officers on a chase before he crashed into a wall at Fifth Terrace, off Collins Avenue.

Police are questioning a 21-year-old man of Bacardi Road following an armed robbery at a laundromat on Carmichael Road.

The robber burst into R&R Wash house at 1pm on Sunday and stole cash.

He escaped in a worker's car, a silver coloured Lexus, but was later arrested at the junction of Cowpen and Bacardi Roads.

## POLICE WALKABOUT IN BLAIR ESTATES

FELIPE MAJOR/TRIBUNE STAFF



POLICE OFFICERS took part in a walkabout in Blair Estates yesterday and spoke with residents. During the exercise they also collected a pair of shoes from a yard (left) which are suspected of belonging to the attacker of a woman in the area (See front page story)



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NATIONAL SECURITY MINISTER HITS BACK AT CRITICS

# TURNQUEST: 'I AM NOT TO BLAME FOR RISE IN VIOLENT CRIME'



Perry Christie

## PLP LEADER SAYS TURNQUEST HAS 'LULLED COUNTRY INTO FALSE SENSE OF SECURITY'

By CARA BRENNEN-BETHEL  
cbrennen@tribunemedia.net

TOMMY Turnquest has lulled the country into a false sense of security by suggesting that the record breaking murder rate is the result of "criminals killing criminals," PLP leader Perry Christie said.

At a press conference yesterday, Mr Christie said crime has reached intolerable levels and demanded that the government take immediate and serious steps to address the issue.

He said it is misleading to suggest that the only murders taking place are confined to the criminal underworld as there have been many cases of innocent bystanders being killed - and in two cases of pregnant victims, innocent children being killed as well.

"Action is what is needed, not indifference, or protestations of helplessness. I again renew my earlier appeals to the government to provide, as a matter of the utmost urgency, the necessary resources and leadership for an effective fight against crime and its underlying causes," he said.

Mr Christie said he hopes the government will now reinstate the community policing and crime initiatives instituted under the former PLP government, namely Urban Renewal 2.0, 50 Bahamians, Safe Haven and Violence Breakers.

He also urged the government to implement more aggressive and imaginative anti-crime measures, particularly in hot-spots for criminal activity.

"Parallel with such measures, we also need to fix what is clearly a badly broken judicial system. Our bail laws need to be reformed urgently, speedier trials need to become the order of the day, the witness protection programme needs to be properly organised, funded and monitored; our sentencing policies need to be reformulated and our punishments for murder need to be re-visited to ensure that capital punishment can be effectively meted out in the worst of the worst cases, and so that life imprisonment really means life, not 10 or 12 or 20 years," Mr Christie said.

He stressed that these changes must come at a parliamentary level as the courts and police force can only enforce what is law.

"The government needs to ensure that parliament takes the necessary action on these anti-crime imperatives without delay," he said.

Mr Christie said crime is not the sole responsibility of the government, and he also called on "every responsible citizen and resident" to join the fight.

"I make a very special appeal to all of us to play his or her part to help rid our nation of this dreadful scourge.

"I especially appeal to our religious leaders to step beyond the four walls of their churches and lead their members in reclaiming peace and social tranquility for our communities and homes.

"I also sound a special appeal to parents and family members to intervene in the lives of family members who are known to be actively involved in crime or prone to criminal activity and violent behaviour.

"I am also calling on business and civic leaders to roll up their sleeves and commit greater time and resources to assist in the fight against crime.

"We need to take our country from the forces of destruction and violence that abound in the land. To do that we must all work together," he said.

By TANEKA THOMPSON  
Deputy Chief Reporter  
tthompson@tribunemedia.net

NATIONAL Security Minister Tommy Turnquest hit back at those who claim his stance on crime is too relaxed.

He added that neither he nor the Royal Bahamas Police Force is to blame for the rise in violent crime, which is a symptom of wider social problems.

His comments came after five killings over the weekend took the murder count for the year to 100.

Mr Turnquest said: "The fact of the matter is, I am the minister of national security - none of the 100 homicides were committed by me, none were motivated by me, none were inspired by me.

"What's causing these homicides to rise? You have to look at the circumstances that are taking place and realise that the police can't be everywhere.

"How did we get to this stage? I think that's what the sociologists and the activists ought to ask themselves - not what is Tommy Turnquest doing about the 100 murders, but how did we get to this stage?"

Mr Turnquest was speaking as a guest on the radio show Real Talk Live.

He said he is very committed to his job and is in constant communication with law enforcement agencies.

"I work 16-hour days, I live and sleep my job and I'm in constant contact with the commissioner of police, the commodore of the Royal Bahamas Defence Force and the superintendent of prisons," he said.

The homicide record has many calling on government to quickly pass legislation to address the problem.



POLICE AT THE SCENE of Saturday's stabbing death at the burial ground north of the Eastern Cemetery, St Matthew's Church, Shirley Street.

"I call on prime minister Ingraham to shorten the long vacation of Parliament, reconvene and put in place a law and message for the would-be criminal: if you take a life you will be put away forever," said religious leader Bishop Simeon Hall.

### New Laws

The House of Assembly will return from summer break on October 5.

Mr Turnquest said when Parliament meets again, government should be prepared to introduce a number of new laws to prevent violent, repeat offenders getting bail.

"The number of persons out

on bail will astound you and so the police are picking up these persons, arresting them, putting them before the courts and finding that they're out again reoffending and that is a serious problem that we have in our society," Mr Turnquest said.

"We're going to have an attempt at keeping these criminals behind bars with a number of Bills that will be brought to Parliament on October 5 that we hope will provide some teeth, some additional resource, to keep these criminals behind bars."

Government is expected to table three pieces of legislation when parliament resumes in October: a new criminal procedure code, a new penal

code and a new Bail Act.

The new laws are expected to change the definition of a life sentence from 25 years to the convict's natural life and outline specific categories of murder.

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## The DNA asks: just how secure are we?

AS the murder record continues to climb, the Democratic National Alliance is questioning if anyone in the Bahamas is safe anymore.

In a statement issued yesterday, the new party said the crime epidemic that is "suffocating our society" is evidence of the government's failure to fulfil its primary responsibility - protecting the public.

It said: "One of the foundations of our constitution is that we as citizens are entitled to the fundamental right and freedom to life, liberty, security and the protection.

"Recent news that our nation for the first time in its independent history, reached a record breaking 100-plus murders, surpassing the 94 murders recorded in 2010, has startled the nation and caused us to ask of our government, just how secure are we?"

"We are also witnessing some of the most gruesome criminal activities to have ever taken place in our country, while being told by a foreign court that these acts are not 'the worst of worst'.

"We in the DNA say to that foreign court, that their standard of worst is a lot more liberal than what we are prepared to accept as law-abiding, God-fearing and patriotic Bahamians."

The DNA called on all Bahamians able to vote, to send a "striking rebuke" to the present government, and force them to admit that their crime fighting policy is inadequate.

"The government can no longer afford to ignore the deep social ailments correlated with crime in our communities," the statement said.

It said that while crime is a multi-faceted problem that

requires a multi-faceted approach, it has become evident that the government has not placed enough emphasis on the issue.

"We in the DNA are frustrated and worried about the deteriorating security in the Bahamas, and we fear that the present government is preoccupied with an election agenda that does not address crime as a top priority for the Bahamian people," the statement said.

The DNA called on all parties, political and civil organisations, and public and private institutions to work together to end the "fever" that is plaguing the country.

"The time to act is long overdue as we quickly approach a point of no return, and we as leaders will have blood on our hands for the lives we failed to protect and secure," the party said.

## Bahamas 'near the tipping point' in crime

THE Bahamas is now "near the tipping point" a local anti-crime activist group has warned.

Calling the new record for murders set last week a "shameful" milestone, Bahamas Against Crime (BAC) urged authorities to change tack before it is too late.

"Only a collective effort, with less talk and more focused action, will prevent a deepening of the crisis, with the attendant social collapse," said BAC executive director Rev CB Moss in a statement.

Rev Moss said the new murder record "ensures that 2011 will be the bloodiest year in our history, setting the fourth new record in the last five years."

As if this were not enough, he said, other serious crimes are also at or near record levels.

"Obviously this state of affairs is providing opportunistic and self-serving entities a great platform to assign blame, and to promote their selfish agendas," he said.

"The truth is that most, if not all of them failed to respond when they should have, thereby making a direct contribution to the present sad state."

BAC noted that since 2005, its members have tried "with very limited success" to alert the country to the impending crisis.

"Some of those doing the most talking today were among the least responsive. On April 19, 2010 Bahamas Against Crime organised a summit for private sector organisations, followed by another on June 16, 2010. It is very interesting to note how many of the nearly 100 invitees failed to attend. A



Rev CB Moss

visit to our website, bahamasagainstcrime.net/News&Events, will reveal their identities, which should make interesting reading.

"Bahamas Against Crime is once again calling upon the nation to act now before it is too late. If we are not prepared to act, then stop the rhetoric," Rev Moss said.

The solution to crime is in obeying the Ten Commandments

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That lies behind our smiles  
No-one knows how many times  
We want to tell you something  
So there won't be any doubt  
You're so wonderful to think of  
But so hard to be with out

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## Tough laws promised to keep criminals in prison

AN EXASPERATED Police Commissioner yesterday called for stiffer penalties for law breakers.

He said that criminals were not taking the law seriously because punishments were too light. In other words criminals were just playing a catch-me-if-you-can game with the police, while wreaking vengeance on society.

The Commissioner was asked by the press whether the police were doing enough to stop the bloodshed — which with 100 murders made Bahamian history over the weekend. As we wrote this column last night a report flashed across our screen that two more persons — a man and a woman — had just been shot in Nassau Village. They were taken to hospital — the man in serious condition, the woman stable.

One could almost see the Commissioner biting his tongue at yesterday's conference as he tried to gingerly skirt the reporter's question.

He said police officers were arresting the suspects, but after a person was charged it was out of their hands and up to the courts. He said he did not want to speak on the issue in too much detail.

He might not want to elaborate on what is a sore point in police ranks, but we shall do it for him.

The answer simply put is: The police are doing their job, but the courts are not.

Let's look at a five-day period to give our readers some idea of what is happening.

Between July 12 and 17th this year 39 prisoners were released from HM Prison by the courts.

Of this number 22 of them were in prison on remand. The courts gave them bail and released them.

Of these, six were charged with murder and at least three of them went before the magistrate's court with a well established criminal record.

Also among the 22 released onto the streets within a five-day period were persons charged with attempted murder, conspiracy to murder, armed robbery, rape, housebreaking, possession of firearms and drugs, causing grievous harm, fraud and forgery. Many of them have prison records, most of them for violence. Four of them were fitted with electronic monitoring devices.

Examining their records it is obvious that they have been sent back into society without any hope of finding a job or earning an honest crust of bread to keep them alive until their court date. And so what do they do?

We leave it to our readers to answer that question. It is easy to connect the dots and understand what is happening in the country.

Commissioner Greenslade has already connected the dots, but does not want to talk about the picture they present — at least not in public.

In an England gone soft on law breakers, a sudden outbreak, mainly by youth, of rioting and destruction last month, quickly brought legislators to their senses. Vowing to stop the "slow-motion moral collapse" of his country, Prime Minister David Cameron demanded stiff penalties for law breakers. The courts immediately responded, so much so that the weak-hearted are sniffing that the law is going too far. But Cameron is taking no nonsense. He has vowed to introduce laws to "crack down on lawlessness and promote a responsible society."

He directed his cabinet to look for ways to combat a "broken society" in which "fathers had abdicated responsibility for their children, schools had given up on discipline and crimes had gone unpunished."

The courts' harsh sentences were intended to reflect the authorities' anger at the looting, burning and murder that raged through London and spread to other cities.

For example, a mother who was given a pair of shorts stolen by a rioter was jailed for five months, a student went to prison for six months for stealing a box of bottled water worth about \$4, while a man was jailed for four years for posting a message on Facebook to encourage people to start a riot. Courts also remanded defendants in custody until their court hearing.

Mr Cameron was pleased that the courts had sent a tough message by stiff sentences. Across the country courts were working extra hours to deal with the offenders, which moved into the thousands.

Police Commissioner Greenslade wants sanctions tough enough to make persons afraid to carry a gun in this country because they would know that they would be removed from their family and friends for a very long time.

Since the courts don't seem inclined to step up to the plate, when the House of Assembly returns from its summer break on October 5 government plans to introduce a number of new Bills to prevent violent, repeat offenders from getting bail.

"We hope that we will provide some teeth, some additional resource, to keep these criminals behind bars," said National Security Minister Tommy Turnquest.

Some Bahamians are so agitated by the seeming indifference of the courts, that they are now suggesting that maybe there are those in the system who are trying to embarrass the government.

The situation is bad, but we hope that it is not that bad.

# Concern after downgrading of the Bahamas

EDITOR, The Tribune.

I WRITE you with much concern for my country as I have read in your esteemed publication of the downgrading of the economic outlook for the Bahamas from "stable" to "negative" by Moody's, the international credit rating agency. This is recognition that the economic condition of our country is now on a slippery slope to disaster if corrective action is not taken soon. It also means, among other things, that the Bahamas may have to pay higher interest rates on its foreign borrowings going forward.

Having watched and listened to the government's budget presentations for years, I am not at all surprised at this development. Indeed I am surprised that it took so long to happen. Over the years, our governments, FNM and PLP, have been continuously and massively spending more than its revenue and borrowing the difference, which increases our national debt accordingly. Indeed this very bad practice has become so entrenched that enormous deficit budgeting has seemingly become structurally built into our country's fiscal template with the words "balanced budget" being relegated to the distant past. The resulting national debt has now ballooned so large that this year for the first time in history the government cannot boast that the "lion's share" of the budget is going to the Department of Education. This is because the largest portion of our budget is now being allocated to paying interest and principal on our enormous national debt. Unless something drastic happens, it appears that this significant change (which the government has been understandably quiet about) will be permanent.

On a personal level, if anyone engages in this foolhardy exercise of continuously spending much more than they earn and borrowing the difference, they would very soon end up in serious financial trouble. I'm certain that the people who now run the government and their predecessors won't dare run their households in this fashion, yet they don't think twice about doing it to our country. Amazingly, in recent years our finance Ministers have boasted not about how much mon-

## LETTERS

letters@tribunemedia.net

ey the government has saved by spending less, but rather about how much money the government can borrow, seemingly unaware that every dollar borrowed has to be repaid with interest.

In particular, this FNM government has become famous for trotting out Hon Zhivargo Laing onto the talk-show circuit each year to advance and defend the "wonderful" budget that was presented in the House of Assembly. Well, it is precisely those "wonderful" budgets (this fiscal year the projected deficit, which will have to be borrowed, is \$314 million) that have brought us to this point where the economic outlook for the country is "negative." I wonder if the government is now going to have Mr Laing appear on all of the popular talk-shows trying to explain to sensible Bahamians that a "negative" economic outlook is actually a "wonderful" thing.

The bottom line is this, our FNM and PLP governments have both failed us miserably by an insane budgetary practice of borrow-and-spend in good times and bad. A fundamental part of this problem is the fact that both governments have insisted on having failed attorneys as finance ministers. A good example of this is the fact that despite whatever

statement the government issued in its attempt to assuage the population following the ratings downgrade, it predicts in this year's budget that the deficits for the next two years, 2012 and 2013, will be \$362 million and \$315 million respectively. I wonder what our economic outlook will be at the end of all of that additional borrowing. Secondary failures of both governments have been a failure or inability to diversify the economy, which would expand the revenue base of the government. They always talk a great talk about expanding the agriculture and fisheries sectors, but fail miserably to do so year after year. And needless to say, they absolutely fail to diversify the economy in any other sector as well.

Prior to this downgrade, the only national leader who expressed concern about our national debt, has been Hon Branville McCartney of the Democratic National Alliance, (DNA). Perhaps real political change needs to occur if our country is to be spared the economic disaster that has already been visited upon several of our neighbours to the south who we sometimes claim to be so far ahead of. It is clear to me that if nothing changes, that is the kind of company the Bahamas will be in very soon.

WELLY FORBES

Nassau,  
September 5, 2011.

## 'Unfair competition' with Bahamians

EDITOR, The Tribune.

I WOULD appreciate you giving space for the following:

As your readers are well aware Bahamas-wide, yea even worldwide businesses are struggling to survive and in Abaco there is no difference.

For several years now a local trucking company (not mine) was engaged in delivering sod and fertilisers, etc., for a local grower until recently.

Now the shocker! Abaco Foods Limited owned by Mr Paul Baker a foreigner who has been given duty free on all his equipment has taken over the deliveries for this grower.

Last week Albury's Trucking (my company) was engaged by BEC to pick up freight from the Fast Ferry at Sandy Point, when my driver arrived in Sandy Point Mr Baker's truck was loading what he went to pick up. My driver informed his driver that if he took the freight BEC was still going to have to pay him because he had been engaged to do so. Mr Baker's driver then off loaded the goods.

I am deeply troubled that a foreigner (US citizen) can come to this country supposedly to do farming, bring in all of his equipment duty free and go into unfair competition with Bahamians who have to pay up to 85 per cent duty and they pay nothing.

I trust that the government will put a stop to Mr Baker's involvement in the local trucking business and maybe the Comptroller of Customs should look into collecting the duties since his equipment is being used to do other than for what his approval was granted.

JACK ALBURY

Abaco,  
September 19, 2011.

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LOCAL NEWS

# STRAW MARKET 'SHOULD BE COMPLETE WITHIN DAYS'



THE INTERIOR of the Straw Market pictured in July.

WORK on the New Straw Market building should be complete in a matter of days according to project director Robert Hall.

However, Ministry of Works officials still cannot say when the market will be open to the general public.

During a tour of the building yesterday, Mr Hall said the construction phase for the new market, which contains 455 booths for vendors and 14 for wood carvers, would be complete by the end of next week.

"The building is 99 per cent completed.

"We only have to test the sprinkler system and the lighting," he said.

When asked yesterday about when the market would open, Minister of Works Neko Grant said he did not have that information as he was on vacation.

"I've been on vacation for a week now. You have to ask Mr Colin Higgs, Permanent Secretary of Works," he said.

Mr Higgs was unavailable for comment and did not return the

call before press time.

Elizabeth Keju, undersecretary in the Ministry of Works, said although she is uncertain of when the straw market will open, she is sure it won't be before the end of the month as previously promised.

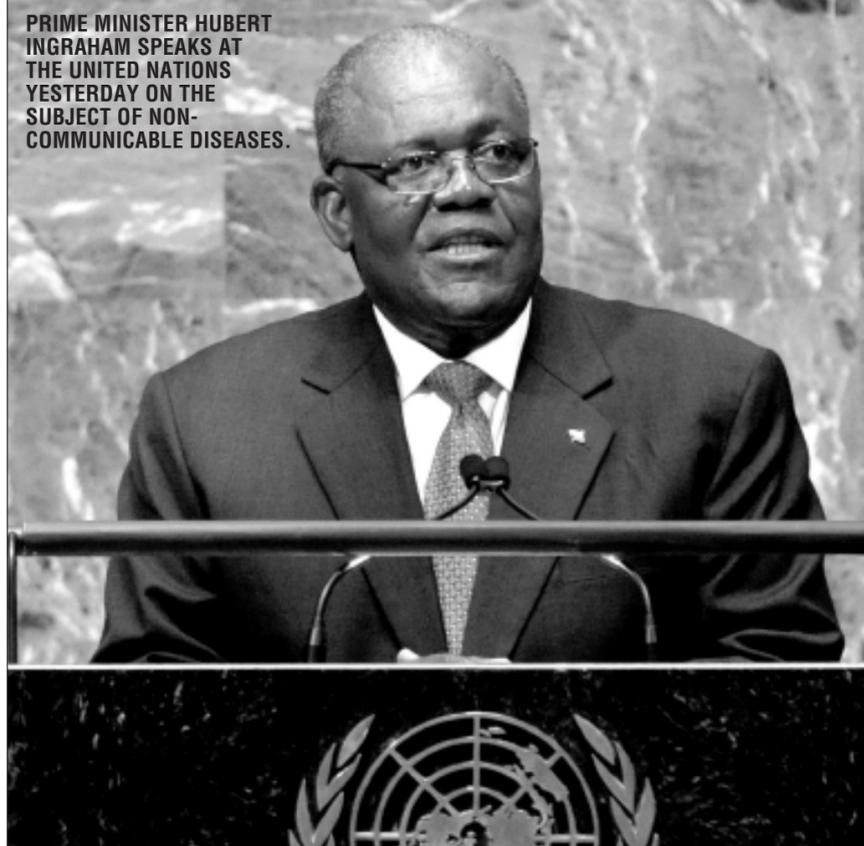
She added that there are still "official and minor things" that have to be addressed before the market can open for business.

"First of all it has to be turned over from the contractor to the government and the water isn't fully in use as yet," she said.

"We have not assigned the vendor any booths as yet, but we speak to the vendors as things come up. We just had a meeting with the straw market leaders on Thursday to finalise the seating within the new building."

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PRIME MINISTER HUBERT INGRAHAM SPEAKS AT THE UNITED NATIONS YESTERDAY ON THE SUBJECT OF NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES.



RECOMMENDATIONS GIVEN TO MEMBER COUNTRIES

## PM ADDRESSES THE UN ON NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

By AVA TURNQUEST  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
aturnquest@tribunemedia.net

NON-communicable diseases account for 60 per cent of all deaths in the Bahamas according to health statistics, which indicate that half the victims are persons 45 and older.

Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham revealed these statistics and offered "strong" recommendations on how to decrease the prevalence of NCDs during a high-level United Nations meeting yesterday.

During his address, Mr Ingraham advised member countries of the need to secure "concrete commitments" on NCDs and create an "effective follow-up mechanism".

His recommendations included:

- Increases to international and regional budgetary allocations
- Increased access to training in policy formulation, monitoring and evaluation, and co-ordination across health systems

- Policy changes for inter-sectoral involvement in the NCD prevention initiatives
- Sharing of best practices

"This assembly recognises for the first time the growing burden of non-communicable diseases and their socio-economic impact," Mr Ingraham said.

"In the Bahamas, one half of all public hospital beds are occupied by people suffering from NCDs, with an average length of stay of seven days."

Costs associated with NCDs are "enormous", Mr Ingraham said, with 80 per cent of the government's drug plan costs spent on treating hypertension and diabetes.

The "dual burden" of communicable and non-communicable diseases on the country has necessitated strategic shifts in health care management, he said.

Initiatives include – but are not limited to – the integration of specialists at health care clinics; the

National Prescription Drug Plan; increased public awareness campaigns; community partnerships; and patient self-management programmes.

The government is also working to develop national food and nutrition guidelines and policy.

Mr Ingraham said: "To stem and redirect the course of the epidemic we must promote and encourage changes to our lifestyles, and making healthy behaviour and appropriate food choices for our children.

"We must continue to fight the global health challenges facing us. We owe it to future generations."

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### Greeting

## 1 Timothy 1:1-2

Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ, by the commandment of God our Savior and the Lord Jesus Christ, our hope, To Timothy, a true son in the faith:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord.

LOCAL NEWS



MORE THAN 50 employees from the Sea Grapes, Cable Beach and South Beach locations gathered outside the Harbour Bay food store yesterday. TIM CLARKE/TRIBUNE STAFF

**CITY MARKET STAFF: TREAT US LIKE HUMAN BEINGS OR LET US GO**

**FROM page one**

is owed to them, "nothing more, nothing less."

"The situation around here is not fair. The government needs to step in. They have us working a week off a week on yet they have eight or nine security, that is retired police officers with two jobs collecting pension, working six days a week," he said.

"I am a man who has a mortgage and family to take care of and I can't work three days in a week or six days out of a month. All they want is my pension money that was left in place when this company was under Winn Dixie. The past two previous owners never add nothing to it. So why are they holding on to the money? That's not theirs. Where is it? What's the problem?"

"Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham need(s) to come in, step in and help the people because this is ridiculous. We are Bahamians; we have to live, people carrying home \$1.15 that is ridiculous. Where is Dion Foulkes? I have invested 14 years in this company, if they don't want me to work, let me go and give me my money. No one is standing up for the small man," he said.

Alberta Rahming, Chief Shop Steward for the South Beach store, said the company is stuffing employees in stores that are already overcrowded, "like sardines in a can."

"We told Mr Finalyson to his face, we want our money. Pay us our money let us go. What they did was they take us and shove us in the two last remaining stores," she said. Cable Beach already has 120 plus workers, so they put all of us on six days a month. So the employees that was stationary are now paying the price too. They are now only working three days every other week also. You could imagine some people that only making \$150 a week, if they on three days every other week, you do the math."

Warfield Bain, president of the Bahamas Commercial Stores, Supermarket and Warehouse Workers Union, said the bargaining agent now plans to file a trade dispute with the Labour board.

He said: "We spoke to our attorneys and now we are seeking legal action. They won't meet with us, so they will meet with our lawyers."

Employees also claim National Insurance increments were not paid from April, despite City Market deducting it out of their cheques.

Up to press time, neither owner of the Finalyson Group of companies, nor Labour Minister Dion Foulkes was available for comment.



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**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE**

**INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT (No.45 of 2000)**

**Five P Investments, Ltd**

Notice is hereby given that, in accordance with Section 137 (8) of the International Business Companies Act, No.45 of 2000, The Dissolution has been issued and the Company has therefore been struck off Registrar. The date of completion of the dissolution was 8th day of August, 2011.

*(Signature)*  
 Maria L.C. Pickwell  
 Liquidator



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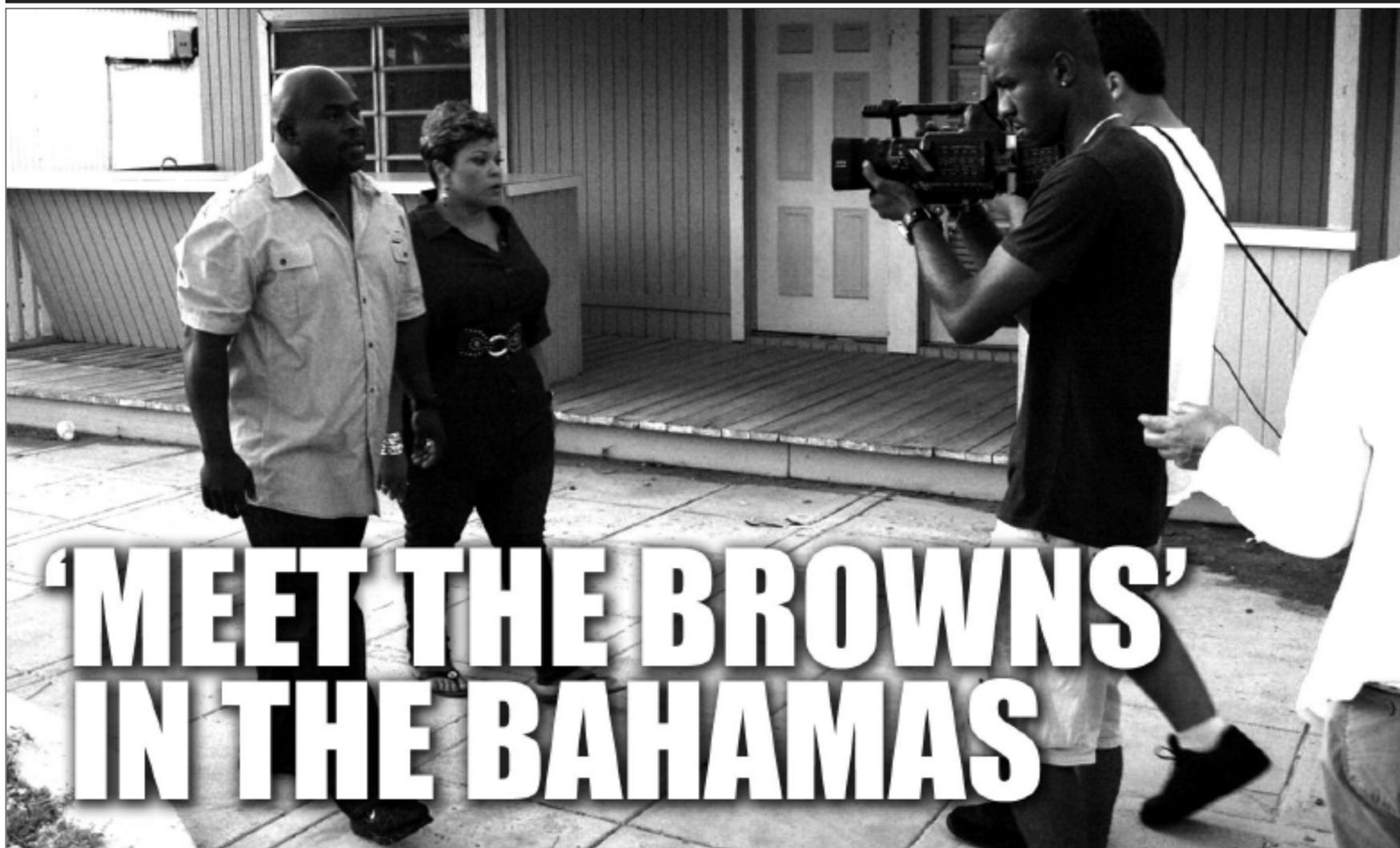


**Thursday, September 22nd, 2011**

**College of The Bahamas, Oakes Field Campus  
 2:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

**R.S.V.P by September 20th, 2011 with Ms. Kendra Moss at  
 302-4359 or [kmoss@cob.edu.bs](mailto:kmoss@cob.edu.bs)**

LOCAL NEWS



# 'MEET THE BROWNS' IN THE BAHAMAS

AUDIENCES throughout the United States will soon get to "meet the Browns" in the islands of the Bahamas.

Roger Bobb, executive producer of the television sitcom *Meet the Browns*, brought his latest television creation to Nassau this month. He will soon debut *Hanging with the Manns* on television. The production is a cooking show hosted by David and Tamela Mann, who portray the hilarious Brown couple on Tyler Perry's *Meet the Browns*.

In Nassau, the hosts met with top chefs at the Poop Deck West, Luciano's of Chicago, Marley Resort and Frankie Gone Bananas. They taped several segments to be included in the television show. *Hanging With The Manns* will showcase the beauty and wonders of the Bahamas. The show is expected to air just in time to impact winter travel from some of the Bahamas' core cold weather markets.

With a new production company, Bobcat Films, Bobb has several documentaries and a feature film lined up for production. He has become known for films such as *For Coloured Girls*, which he produced, and *Why Did I Get Married Too*, which he co-produced.



**ABOVE:** The Bobcat film crew shoots a scene with the Manns at Arawak Key.

**LEFT:** The Manns meet Bahamas Film Commissioner Craig Woods and his wife Yvonne.

**BELOW:** The Manns are pictured with Cacique Award winning chef Edwin Johnson at Frankie Gone Bananas.



## MINISTER HITS THE RIGHT NOTE WITH INSTRUMENTS DONATION



MINISTER of Works Neko Grant donated 22 musical instruments to the St Vincent de Paul Catholic Church in Grand Bahama.

Accepting the instruments, Stephana Saunders, the church's music director, said: "This donation is very generous of Mr

Grant and we thank him deeply from the bottom of our hearts for giving us these instruments to enhance the music at St Vincent de Paul.

"It's going to be threefold, where the marching band is going to be started, we are going to have the junkanoo group and

also it's going to be an addition for Sunday morning services".

This latest donation by Mr Grant was his third presentation of instruments for the year, having already donated to the Bishop Micheal Eldon High School in Freeport and the Exuma Marching Band.

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### THREE EARTHQUAKES ROCK GUATEMALA, ONE CONFIRMED DEAD

GUATEMALA CITY  
Associated Press

THREE EARTHQUAKES shook a major part of Guatemala in less than 90 minutes Monday afternoon, killing at least one person, authorities said.

The largest quake, a 5.8 magnitude, hit at 12:34 p.m., with two of 4.8 magnitude hitting before and after.

All were centered in the same area about 30 miles (51 kilometers) southeast of the capital, Guatemala City.

Firefighters confirmed that the temblors, which shook most of the country, caused a landslide on the highway to El Salvador near the epicenter

of Cuilapa Santa Rosa that trapped at least one car.

They also confirmed that a 28-year-old woman, Flor Escobar de Jesus, died when a wall collapsed in her house, also in Cuilapa. Firefighters initially had said she was killed in the landslide.

It was not clear if there were more deaths or injuries.

Public buildings were evacuated in the area and school classes canceled, authorities said.

The first quake struck at a depth of 38 miles (61 kilometers), the second at 25 miles (39 kilometers) and the third at 23 miles (37 kilometers.)

The first 4.8-magnitude temblor hit just after noon local time and the third of the same magnitude hit at about 1:20 p.m.



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## LOCAL NEWS

FROM page one

## 70-YEAR-OLD WOMAN TELLS COURT OF RAPE ORDEAL

Olivia Blatch of the Attorney General's Office appear on behalf of the Crown.

Attorney Devard Williams represents Strachan.

The prosecution alleges that the victim was lying on a sofa in the living room watching television when the accused arrived from a bar around 9pm.

After learning that his mother and her boyfriend were not in the house, it is alleged that Strachan went to his bedroom and returned to the living room wearing his boxer underwear.

The prosecution alleges that he attacked the elderly woman and dragged her to his bedroom where he had sexual intercourse with her without her consent.

The victim was 69 and Strachan was 25 years old at the time of the alleged incident.

According to the victim's testimony, she was staying with relatives in Eight Mile Rock.

She suffers from various medical conditions, including diabetes, hypertension, and arthritis.

She told the court that the accused - who she refers to as "Neily" - also lived at the residence with his mother and her boyfriend.

On the date in question, the alleged victim said she was lying on the sofa watching television

when Strachan arrived home. She told him his mother had left his dinner in the oven.

The victim said Strachan had inquired about his mother's whereabouts. She told him that his mother and her boyfriend were outside in the van.

The elderly woman told the court that Strachan then went to his room, but later returned to the living room in his boxers.

He ordered her to take her clothes off. "I started hollering and trying to fight him off," the victim said.

The victim testified that Strachan pulled her off the sofa by her legs and dragged her down the hall to his bedroom. He threw her on the bed and took off her clothing.

The victim said she wrestled with Strachan until she didn't have any strength left.

She claims that Strachan had sexual intercourse with her. She explained in greater detail his actions.

The victim said Strachan put his hand over her mouth to muffle her screams for help.

He had also turned up the volume on the radio and had jammed a chair under the door knob.

"I feel like I was going to die," she told the court.

The victim said that Strachan's mother knocked on the bedroom door, but he would not open it so she pushed the door open and discovered them naked in the room.

The victim said the mother's boyfriend contacted the police and the accused fled outside.

The victim said she went to the bathroom and noticed blood in her urine. Police collected evidence and she was



ERIC ONEIL STRACHAN outside of court.

Photo/Vandyke Hepburn

taken to hospital and examined by a doctor.

"Did you have any disagreements or problems with the accused prior to the incident?" asked Prosecutor Kemp. "No," the victim replied.

During cross-examination, Mr Williams suggested that the victim and the accused were having consensual sex when the mother walked in and discovered them naked in the bedroom.

"No, sir," the victim replied. The victim insisted that she never had consensual sex with Strachan.

Mr Williams then noted that his client had sustained a serious leg injury in an accident and had to use crutches.

"You are saying that Eric pulled you off the sofa in the front room and dragged you into his bedroom while he on crutches?"

"How much do you weigh?" Williams asked. The victim told the court that she weighs 150 pounds.

Prosecutor Kemp noted that a sexual assault kit was performed on the victim and the doctor had concluded that vaginal bleeding was caused as a result of trauma to the vagina.

Detective Corporal 2857 Rameko Arthur took photographs of the alleged rape scene - the living room and a rear bedroom.

He also photographed the victim's clothing, and collected a bed sheet.

Corporal Arthur said Strachan was arrested by police at 11pm on December 10, 2010.

Blood and semen samples were taken by order of the court and sent to the Forensic Lab in Nassau.

Prosecutor Kemp noted that samples taken from the accused and the victim's pants were sent off to Biotech in Virginia, USA, for DNA profiling and test results revealed that there was a match.

The trial resumes on Tuesday.

# Tribune Trivia

## Yesterday's Question

What height did Trevor Barry jump to win gold at the 9th Athletics Bridge in Slovakia on Thursday?

## Yesterday's Answer

2.27meters or 7ft 5.25 inches

## Yesterday's Winners

Gloria Fowler

Pauline Adderley-Blenman

Rachel Burrows

3pts

2pts

1pt

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FROM page one

The environment is a stark contrast to the small corner of the male surgical ward that has been his "second home" for the past three years.

"The (doctors) said he wasn't going to eat anymore, breathe anymore, walk or talk, nothing. Everything they said he wasn't going to do he has done, except for walking, and he is going to do that too, he can do it," said his grandmother, Alfreda Edwards.

At 16, Renaldo was thrown from his mother's car when a truck hit the passenger side of the vehicle, where he was seated.

Yesterday, loved ones spoke candidly about the overwhelming pressure from medical staff and the public to "pull the plug" on him during the initial stages of his treatment.

"He went from just getting these shock waves to having actual feelings again," an older cousin said.

"I remember visiting him in ICU and touching his foot and seeing the tiny reaction. I remember his first food craving, once he could eat again, crack conch."

Renaldo's recent weight loss is a serious concern of his family, who are at odds with the level of care he has received at the Princess Margaret Hospital.

Despite the fact that he has not yet been moved to the Intensive Care Unit, which was recommended by doctors after his dramatic improvement, Renaldo continues to make slow, yet steady progress.

On Sunday, the teenager went without the assistance of a ventilator until 11pm.

Pressing his hand to his throat yesterday, which enables him to speak clearly despite intubation from his ventilator, Renaldo refused to criticize the PMH staff, whom he credited with doing the best that they could under the circumstances.

"Right now, there is no space for me in ICU, the level of monitoring that I would need,"

## RENALDO REACHES BIRTHDAY MILESTONE

Renaldo said. "My physiotherapy has increased, they are working with me more now which is good."

Faced with the reality that US treatment costs were too great, Jacqueline Ford, Renaldo's mother, has set her sights on possible treatment opportunities in Cuba.

Renaldo's case had been refused by Cuban hospitals at the onset of his treatment on the grounds that he needed to first be weaned off his ventilator.

"I'm optimistic, but I have a Plan B. Hopefully (Cuba) will reconsider given his progress, but if he is not accepted then I am going to bring him home," Ms Ford, a learning resources employee with the Ministry of Education, said.

"I will bring my child home, and I will find a way to bring therapists to our home. He's a very positive young man and he has the will power to go on."

While his physical capabilities remain limited, Renaldo remains committed to a future career in auto building, design and mechanics, and is currently looking into online learning opportunities.

Collectible car models crowd the shelves in Renaldo's bedroom, and numerous magazine clippings have formed a collage on his door. The room has remained unchanged, despite attempts by his family to make it more wheelchair accessible.

"What for, I am going to walk again, there is no need for that," Renaldo said.

Ms Ford can be reached at 468-2195, her mother at 393-8555, and Renaldo can be reached directly through his FaceBook account under the name of "Renaldo IBeReal Gibson".

## PUNISHMENTS 'ARE TOO LIGHT'

FROM page one

because I am never wanting to be offensive to anyone else or to disregard the role of anyone else.

"We have on record any number of persons who have committed serious crimes and we see these people in and out of the system.

"We continue to do our work and each occasion they offend we arrest them and take the requisite course of action. I am not sure that core group of serious, serial prolific offenders are truly taking us seriously in respect of the punishment and I want to be careful and not go much further than that," the commissioner said.

Mr Greenslade made these comments while releasing crime statistics for the year to date.

The murder count for the year is now 101, after a man who was shot in Eleuthera died of his injuries. The man previously charged with attempting to murder him has now been charged with murder.

Of the 101 murders in the Bahamas, 87 per cent were in New Providence and seven per cent in Grand Bahama.

Police say they have solved 51 per cent of the murders so far.

Statistics also reveal the majority of the murders occurred in the Grove, the

South Eastern Division and the South Western division, with 18 murders recorded in each.

Eighty-eight of the murder victims are adult men and 13 are women.

Seventy per cent of the victims were shot with illegal firearms, and a knife was the weapon of choice in 14 per cent of the murders.

Police removed 324 illegal firearms off the streets and 5,679 rounds of ammunition.

As for the spate of murders this weekend, police have one man in custody and are asking for the public's help in solving the others.

Police have not released the identity of the victims, but Tribune sources say the man who was shot in Kemp Road was Damien Bowe and the man police found shot on Love Beach was Degilus Tilus, a Haitian. Earlier it had been reported that the shooting of Tilus had taken place near Nirvana Beach. However, it took place at 9pm Friday at the entrance to Love Beach Estates, West Bay Street.

Anthony Harris is believed to be the man found stabbed to death in the burial grounds at the eastern end of the Eastern Parade on Dowdeswell Street, opposite St Matthew's church and the Eastern Cemetery. Police believe robbery to be the motive in that case.



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## MANGO PROVIDER HITS 28% OF TARGET

By NEIL HARTNELL  
Tribune Business Editor

TRANSFER SOLUTIONS PROVIDERS (TSP), the Mango card and payment processing provider, yesterday said it was focusing on "walking before we can run", its private equity placement to date having raised just \$1.5 million - less than one-third - of the targeted \$5.438 million.

Dr Jonathan Rodgers, TSP's president, confirmed that while capital raising efforts were "ongoing", the company was focusing on completing its Bahamian market roll-out, with the start of its planned international expansion set to occur within the next 12-18 months.

Arguing that TSP's private placement offering had fared fairly well for a technology-based start-up, Dr Rodgers told Tribune Business it was still in discussions with several institutions interested in investing in it.

While some 250 Bahamas-based merchants, and 9,000 individuals, had signed up to use its Mango stored

- \* Raises just \$1.5m of \$5.4m new equity goal, pushing regional expansion back
- \* Some 250 merchants and 9,000 clients signed, with fast food outlets next
- \* 'Territorial' banks hindering build-out
- \* IDB invite and selection as grant finalist 'real feather in our cap'

value cards, the TSP president added that the company was having to invest "time and money" in building its PoS (Point of Sale) infrastructure - especially as the banks did not want it to use theirs.

"It went not too badly," Dr Rodgers said of TSP's \$5.438 million private placement, which offered investors a combined 30 per cent equity stake in the company. "We had some folks who bought in, some who didn't. It's an ongoing process."

"It's a tough time right now, with the economy not doing well. Some people felt it was a fad, and a tech-

nology play is something people are not familiar with investing in."

Dr Rodgers contrasted TSP's state of evolution with the likes of a Google or Facebook, pointing out that those companies had access to "unlimited capital to do what needs to be done".

His firm, though, was a start-up in a capital market where investment options have been largely limited to the likes of real estate, bank deposits, fixed income instruments and a relatively few equity issuers - none of

SEE page two

## 'WATERSHED' MAYAGUANA DEAL BACKED

- \* Hotel Corp chair says I-Group deal first time developer gives up land and concessions
- \* Developer in talks with resort chain on \$50-\$75m boutique
- \* 80-100 Bahamians set for immediate jobs

By NEIL HARTNELL  
Tribune Business Editor

THE BAHAMAS yesterday said it has experienced "a watershed moment" after the Government approved the revised Heads of Agreement for the I-Group's Mayaguana project, paving the way for a \$24-\$32 million investment in the development's first phase.

Confirming that the Ingraham administration had approved the revised deal subject to some "adaptations" to the rele-

vant documents, Hotel Corporation chairman, Michael Scott, said he was hoping the Mayaguana agreement and enabling legislation would be brought to Parliament by October this year.

Expressing hope that between 80-100 Bahamians would be employed in construction in a month's time, as this is when the Boston-based developer is scheduled to restart upgrades to the island's airstrip and airport terminal, Mr Scott told Tribune

SEE page 4B

## BEC CHAIR SAYS LOWER FUEL COSTS COMING

- \* Load factor down from 233-235MW, easing fuel burning demand
- \* Greater efficiency from increased Clifton Bunker C production also set to mitigate world oil price volatility

By NEIL HARTNELL  
Tribune Business Editor



MICHAEL MOSS

REDUCED load factors and increased energy production using Bunker C fuel should soon reduce the fuel charge component on Bahamas Electricity Corporation (BEC) bills, its chairman told Tribune Business yesterday, helping to mitigate world oil price volatility.

Explaining that BEC's daily peak load had fallen from around 233-235 MegaWatts (MW) to around 218MW on Friday, Michael Moss said that up to a "couple of weeks ago" he had been confident declin-

ing oil prices would be reflected in residential and customer bills in about "a month's time".

Back then there was "some serious downward pressure on the price of oil", but prices had subsequently spiked back up.

"What it will do in the next few weeks I'm not so certain," Mr Moss told Tribune Business. "But what I do believe is that as we increase production from Clifton Pier, even if the price of oil remains consistent, because we are producing electricity with cheaper Bunker C fuel, customers will begin to see a reduction in their bills."

"I do believe there is going to be a bit of a downward trend even if the price of oil remains the same, but it will

SEE page 3B

## PENSION REGULATION RECOMMENDATIONS PRESENTED TO GOV'T

- \* City Markets situation shows 'absolutely critical' to regulate \$1.5bn sector

By NEIL HARTNELL  
Tribune Business Editor

THE GOVERNMENT-APPOINTED Pensions Taskforce has provided the Ingraham administration with recommendations for legislation that would regulate a sector featuring \$1.5 billion in total assets, the lack of current supervision having been highlighted once again by concerns over City Markets' retirement scheme.

A Taskforce member, speaking to Tribune Business yesterday on condition of anonymity, acknowledged that it was "absolutely critical" to implement a proper regulatory framework for the Bahamian pension industry, given its importance to retirement incomes, national savings and capital market investments in the economy's productive assets.

This newspaper was told that the recommendations submitted to the Government were an "amalgamation" of best

practices and legislative features found in other Caribbean countries.

"We've got to the point where we gave some notes for draft legislation," the Taskforce member told Tribune Business. "We're going to follow the Caribbean pattern, where Barbados, Cayman and Jamaica have some elements of it."

"We were taking elements from them."

SEE page 4B

## BAHAMAS URGED: FOLLOW CHINA ON FOREIGN LAWYERS

By NEIL HARTNELL  
Tribune Business Editor

THE BAHAMAS must take a leaf out of China and Barbados's play book when it comes to foreign investment openness, a leading accountant said yesterday, adding that through providing a platform for foreign law firms had helped both nations grow.

Raymond Winder, man-

aging partner at Deloitte & Touche (Bahamas), responding to critics of his call that this nation initiate a "major game changer" for financial services by allowing in foreign law firms and attorneys to practice non-Bahamian law from the

Rejection critics, top accountant says Beijing and Barbados have successfully followed this route to growth

Bahamas, said others had successfully followed this route.

"I think it is important to make a lot of Bahamians understand why China has done so well as a country,"

SEE page two



RAYMOND WINDER, managing partner at Deloitte & Touche (Bahamas)

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BUSINESS

# BAHAMIAN INSURERS SEE RATINGS AFFIRMED

TWO BAHAMIAN subsidiaries of Bermuda-based Colonial Group International have seen their ratings reaffirmed by the top international insurance rating agency, A. M. Best & Company.

It placed financial strength ratings of A- (Excellent) and issuer credit ratings of 'a-' on both Atlantic Medical Insurance

(Bahamas) and Security & General Insurance Company (Bahamas), with the outlook for all ratings stable.

A. M. Best said its rating actions reflected the Bahamian companies' adequate risk-based capitalisation, a consistent increase in their total consolidated equity and diversified business profiles.

It described Atlantic Medical

Insurance as having "a continued strong presence" in the Bahamian health insurance market. Together with Colonial's other health insurance subsidiaries, it put together a higher collective net income and underwriting performance in 2011 and 2010, but top line growth was hit by the weak economy.

As for Security and General, A.

M. Best said it had "generally demonstrated good underwriting results, improved operating performance trends and continuing parental support."

"Furthermore, Colonial Group benefits from these subsidiaries' reinsurance leverage to manage their property/casualty risks, while growing direct premium revenues in their core markets."

But the rating agency added: "Partially offsetting these rating strengths are Colonial Group's significant concentration risk in the volatile health line of business in several geographic regions, vulnerability to frequency and severity of catastrophic events from the property/casualty risks within their markets, and the large amounts of inter-company transactions."

# MANGO PROVIDER HITS 28% OF TARGET

## FROM page one

whom would be classified as a technology company.

"When you're a start-up, you do not have access to the same kind of capital, and in the Bahamas you have a very limited number of investor participants," Dr Rodgers told Tribune Business.

As a result, a relatively small number of pension funds, insurance companies, investment banks and private investor groups "suck up the majority" of capital markets issues.

"We have an insurance company that we are negotiating with right now, and one of the pension funds as well," added Dr Rodgers of ongoing discussions with potential TSP investors.

"We're pushing on and focusing on the local market to get this up and going well."

"Once we've completed that, we will focus on those outside areas where we

want to go. As we get the local market sorted out, and see payments made, people will have confidence as they can see it build-up."

TSP had been seeking the \$5.4 million to finance a planned Caribbean expansion, focusing on territories such as Jamaica, Haiti, the Dominican Republic and the south-eastern US.

## Target

Having failed to hit this target, the Bahamas-based technology provider has temporarily scaled back its ambitions to focus on getting its business in this nation right, the capital raised to date proving more than sufficient for this goal.

"We've raised about \$1 million-and-a-half, and that will take care of the local expansion," Dr Rodgers confirmed.

"The thing to do is walk before you can run. We

need to get everything running well here, and then go to the next phase."

Adding that TSP would look to start its international expansion within the next 12-18 months, Dr Rodgers described its products and services as having "endless potential", given that 65 per cent of the world's population were 'unbanked' - meaning they did not have access to traditional forms of financial services.

He added that TSP had recently secured "a real feather in its cap" after being invited by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to speak at a Costa Rica conference.

TSP was the only English-speaking company invited to the conference, and Dr Rodgers said it was among eight finalists, out of an initial 350 entrants, in the running for a "significant grant" from the IDB for technology companies.

TSP has about 9,000 individuals signed up as Mango cardholders in the Bahamas. The stored value cards act much like debit cards, enabling the user to pay for goods and services when the card is swiped at one of TSP's PoS systems.

"It's good, but we have to get people to utilise the card," Dr Rodgers told Tribune Business of the existing customer base.

"The other stumbling block we have is with the

PoS, because you need a PoS to use it like a regular credit/debit card. We're having to build out our own infrastructure for PoS with merchants and businesses around town.

"That takes time and money, because like everything else in the Bahamas, there's very little co-operation between institutions."

Dr Rodgers urged Bahamian commercial banks to "stop being so territorial" when it came to facility sharing, telling this newspaper they did not want other payment applications downloaded using their existing in-store PoS systems.

This, he explained, was causing problems with merchant take-up of the TSP/Mango technology and services, because it meant retailers had to have two separate PoS systems - one for bank credit/debit cards, and one for the Mango card.

To have both meant merchants were incurring increased fees through having to pay two different PoS providers.

"They've closed ranks, so to speak," Dr Rodgers said of the commercial banks. "It makes it more difficult for all parties concerned."

These people need to get a life, stop being so territorial and it will be better for everyone.

"It's growing pains. These are minor obstacles on the road to success. It's more annoying than anything else."

"You have a very territorial market here, and have to keep pushing to achieve what you want to achieve."

## Obstacles

Implying that this was typical of the normal experiences for Bahamian entrepreneurs, Dr Rodgers said: "Life is full of obstacles, barriers and reefs, and every inch of the way there are people trying to prevent you doing what you want to achieve. It's par for the course."

TSP has to-date signed up some 250 Bahamian merchants for the Mango card and PoS system, including all the major supermarkets and food stores, major retailers and gasoline stations.

It is "going to be moving soon" into fast food outlets.

Dr Rodgers said TSP's products were attempting to provoke "a paradigm

change in mentality", prodding Bahamians to "change their lifestyle" and transition from a cash-based society. With the high level of crime, such a switch is timely, as the Mango cards are PIN number protected and can prevent the loss of large cash sums in armed robberies.

"The banks are being fairly slow in the take-up of technology, pre-paid cards and debit cards. We're trying to change the way people think, and it takes time," Dr Rodgers said.

Many observers believe businesses such as TSP provide a model for where Bahamian companies and the wider economy should go, focusing on skilled human capital in technology-based businesses that offer high margin, value-added services.

"The whole idea is for us to grow as a country," Dr Rodgers added. "IT is going to be one of the key areas that needs to be looked at, as it does not require natural resources but, instead, human capital."

"It's a natural for us, but we have to embrace it and live it, otherwise we will get left behind."

## Share your news

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# BAHAMAS URGED: FOLLOW CHINA ON FOREIGN LAWYERS

## FROM page one

Mr Winder told Tribune Business. "It changed over the last 20 years in terms of openness to foreign investment."

"China has made it possible for any company, if they so desire, to invest in China, and today all the largest legal firms in the UK and US are in China."

It was the same for Barbados, Mr Winder said, a fellow Caribbean state and a competitor for the Bahamas when it came to financial services and Canadian business, especially when it came to double taxation benefits.

"Barbados has recognised that providing an openness for foreign legal firms to provide non-Barbadian legal services is a growth area, and at some point in time we will have to take a look at this area, which is not being utilised by existing service providers," Mr Winder told Tribune Business.

## Unemployed

In a previous interview, he had said a similar move was necessary if the Bahamian economy was to grow at a rate high enough to absorb the 38,000 Bahamians who were either listed as unemployed, or 'not looking' for work, in the Department of Statistics' May 2011 Labour Force survey. Not to mention the 5,000 school leavers graduating high school every year.

"I really think that in the financial services sector we need to look at major game changer in terms of attracting investors," Mr Winder told Tribune Business.

"I really think a major game changer would be to allow foreign lawyers to come in and work on foreign legal matters, not Bahamian legal matters. Their work permits would restrict them to working on US, Chinese or Canadian legal matters and such like."

Given that the ultra high net worth individuals who form the backbone of the

Bahamian financial services industry's clients typically rely on a single trusted attorney for advice, allowing these so-called 'rain-makers' or key business drivers to base themselves in this nation could entice their clients to follow them - and their assets - and live in the Bahamas as their primary domicile.

"It's a way of attracting individuals of significant wealth, and it would be to our advantage if we have [attorneys] like that because they'd be driving potential clients to our marketplace that would not be attracted otherwise," Mr Winder added. "There are significant benefits to all of that."

"We've got to do a major game changer, because we've been handling regulatory stuff for the last five years, and that's not going to cut it in terms of generating employment for the sector."

But Mr Winder's suggestion was dismissed by former Bahamas Bar Association president Wayne Munroe.

He said: "A Chinese high net worth person, for example, wanting advice about Chinese practices would in any event get it in China. If he were to set up a structure here to take advantage of some perceived benefit from the Chinese tax structure, they're still going to have to engage Bahamian lawyers. The structure would have to be legal here in the Bahamas."

"What Mr Winder may be unaware of is that is how things work now anyway. You have foreign lawyers who correspond with Bahamians lawyers, give advice as to what they are trying to achieve, ask advice on our structures. The only matters that impact here would be Bahamian structures."

"He's probably just unaware that the same thing happens here, so no high net worth individual comes down here other than having his local lawyers in the country where he is from determine that something can happen here. They liaise with a Bahamian lawyer who gives them advice as to what can happen in the Bahamas and they work together."

BUSINESS

# BEC CHAIR SAYS LOWER FUEL COSTS COMING

**FROM page one**

not be as significant as if the oil price goes down itself.”

Mr Moss said he expected maintenance overhauls on Clifton Pier's generation units to be completed in another seven weeks. One unit was down last week to undergo its health check, and came back on line this week as another unit was taken off.

BEC's maintenance efforts, the chairman added, were being aided by the fact that its New Providence load demand had "fallen off" and "started to decrease" in line with the end of summer's peak and the return to school.

"We're down from 233MW or 235MW," Mr Moss told Tribune Business. "That will create some downward pressure on the fuel costs, so we should begin to see some degree of moderation."



ONE OF BAHAMAS STRIPING'S five trainees, Romell Davis, 18, gets his first hands-on experience applying thermoplastic on speed humps on Sandilands Road.

# SELF-STARTER COMPANY EMPOWERS BAHAMIANS

Bahamas Striping, one of the Self-Starter award winners, is pursuing the training of Bahamians in the specialised field of pavement marking.

Atario Mitchell, its president, said in a statement: "From the onset of Bahamas Striping I decided to implement our training policy that would allow for the empowerment of our 100 per cent Bahamian staff."

"To ensure that we provide our employees the highest industry standards, we brought in a certified striping technician from the United Kingdom to help train our staff. As a result, Bahamas Striping and our staff are proficient and compliant to the high marking standards of the UK, which are used on the roads in the Bahamas."

## Employed

Romell Davis was employed by Bahamas Striping just before he turned 18. He began his training by learning how to mark and measure where the stripes would go on car parks and roads.

As a result of his training, he was given a first time on-site opportunity using thermoplastic to mark 13 of the 19 speed humps along Sandilands Road, which he successfully completed.

"I am excited to see one of my youngest employees being empowered and excelling in an area that has been dominated by foreign workers for over a decade in our country," Mr

Mitchell said.

"I am convinced that if we can afford young Bahamian men an opportunity to learn and become skilled in various vocational and technical fields, we will curb the social meltdown that we are seeing in our country today."

## Skills

"Romell's next stage is training and developing skills in applying thermoplastic on roads. We are as proud of Romell's training advances as we are of all of our team members. Romell has as profound sense of pride that he as a young Bahamian was part of the team that recently marked the Lyford Cay School parking lot and the East Bay Street & Fox Hill Road Junction near St. Anne Church. In fact, he and the other employees as young as they are, see themselves as nation builders. As a young entrepreneur, I don't just want to build a successful company; I want to build nation builders."

"This job has given me hope," said Mr Davis. "Before I came to Bahamas Striping, I was pretty much on my own. I didn't know where I was going to get money to survive next week. The training has given me a skill that I am proud of and now I can see a brighter future for myself. Road marking is a rare skill in my country for us as Bahamians and I am motivated to making our company the biggest and the best."

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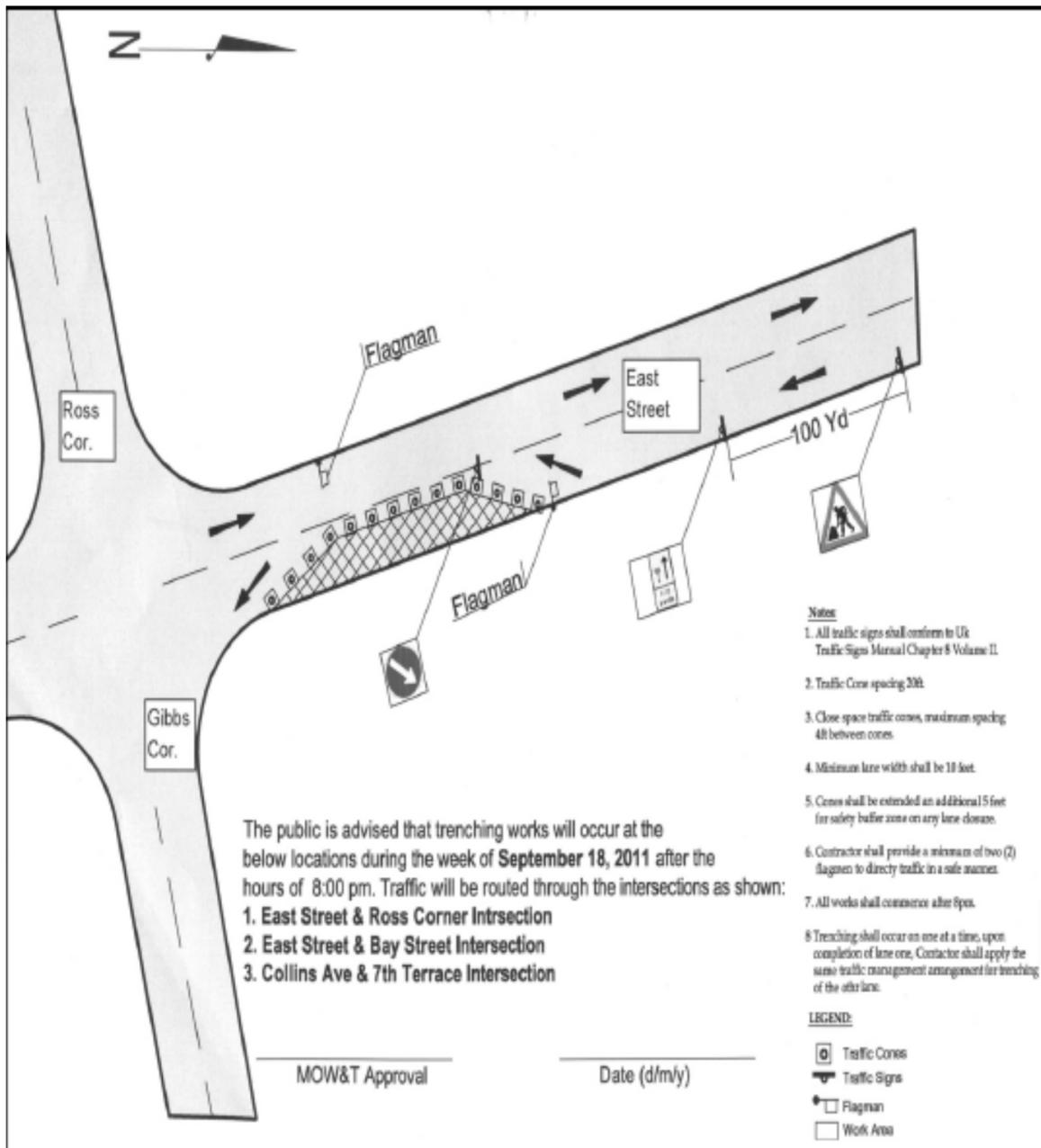
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BUSINESS

# 'WATERSHED' MAYAGUANA DEAL BACKED

FROM page one

Business the I-Group was also in negotiations to bring a major owner/operator of luxury boutique resorts to Mayaguana.

He confirmed the developer is talking to the Six Senses group, which owns and operates properties in nations such as Oman, Vietnam, the Maldives and Thailand, about a \$50-\$75 million investment in creating a similar high-end resort on Mayaguana. If talks conclude successfully, Six Senses would be the first of the joint venture or third party developers brought by the I-Group to the southern Bahamas.

"The revised deal, as evidenced by the draft, revised and restated Heads of Agreement, has been approved by the Government," Mr Scott told Tribune Business.

"There are certain observations and qualifications, as reflected in the Cabinet conclusions, and that will require some adaptations to the documents. They're going to the Attorney General's Office for review, and after that is completed, in short order the final agreement will be tabled in the House and the Senate, and the enabling legislation put in place."

Mr Scott said he anticipated the

House tabling would occur in October, with the legislation "solidifying in statute" - via "one omnibus" law - the range of investment incentives to be received by the I-Group through an Act solely tailored to its specific Heads of Agreement.

Expressing hope that resumption of the I-Group project would act "as a catalyst" spurring other investment proposals for the southern Bahamas, the Hotel Corporation added that "anywhere between 80-100" Bahamians were likely to find construction employment in the short-term.

"It should be starting in the next month," Mr Scott said of the Mayaguana development. "It's going to begin with construction of the airstrip to accommodate Dash 8 traffic, and will continue with the airport terminal. In a couple of months there will be marina work and construction of a 25-room boutique hotel."

The I-Group is looking at a \$5-\$10 million marina in the first phase of its revised project, taking total investment in this stage to between \$24-\$32 million.

The marina is in addition to a \$1.5 million new airport terminal for Mayaguana; a \$7-\$10 million spend on upgrading the runway, aprons and

associated airport infrastructure; \$500,000 on community projects in Mayaguana; and a \$10 million boutique hotel with a minimum of 25 rooms.

Mr Scott confirmed that in its discussions with the I-Group, Six Senses was looking at an investment "starting at \$50 million and extending to \$75 million". It was mulling a boutique hotel, with villas and a real estate component thrown in with the resort operations.

"I think it's going to have a tremendous impact," Mr Scott said of the I-Group project. "I'm hoping it acts as a catalyst for other development proposals, not on that scale, but for others to surface or be initiated for the Bahamas, and particularly the southern Bahamas.

"Because of the remoteness of that part of the Bahamas, and its relative underdevelopment still, I think it's going to have a much greater impact in the short-term."

The I-Group will receive 2,912 acres of land for its initial phase, and has the option to acquire another 2,913 acres maximum over eight separate development phases. This is a far cry from the original Heads of Agreement signed with the Christie administration, which granted the

developer that collective acreage upfront - and a similar amount in one fell swoop at a later stage - for a collective 9,999 acres.

Mr Scott said the developer had "a finite time" in which to begin and complete work at every stage, and land would only be released if these targets were met and the work up to quality.

The Hotel Corporation chairman said this was the first time he could remember when a developer had relinquished an agreement with the Government that was heavily tilted in its favour.

He added: "It is a watershed moment in this country, as far as I'm concerned, because there is no previous example in recent memory of a developer giving up land and concessions it had with the previous government in exchange for less land and probably fewer concessions, but with the prospect of a better relationship with this government and governments to come in the future."

"For that the I-Group itself deserves a lot of credit for taking the lateral and flexible approach to these negotiations, and deflecting any short-term benefits for long-term gains in their relationship with the Government and people of the

Bahamas. It shows a willingness to be a good corporate citizen."

As for the Ingraham administration, Mr Scott singled out Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace, minister of tourism and aviation, for particular praise.

"The view I take is that much credit is due to the Government," he added. "It overcame its original distaste and resistance to the Agreement entered into between the I-Group and the PLP government in March 2006."

"It adopted a positive and flexible posture in its approach to the continuing negotiations, so as to bring about a development more harmonious and in keeping with the national aspirations and development policies of the Bahamas. For that, in my view, they deserve singular credit, because what we now have is an arrangement considerably better than the one we had before."

"Yes, there's still a measure of scepticism and suspicion, but by and large we have the platform and the framework for moving this forward, and I look forward to the new arrangement being completed and, where necessary, legislation enabled. Most of all, development will be taking place in Mayaguana."

# PENSION REGULATION RECOMMENDATIONS PRESENTED TO GOV'T

FROM page one

In Jamaica it's not mandatory, but it has some really good regulations as it relates to investments - what are permissible investments by pension funds, and stuff like that.

"We're doing an amalgam of what we think is the best in the region. There's also some policy initiatives the Government will have to consider."

Pension industry regulation will go hand-in-hand with education and incentives to encourage Bahamians to save for their retirement, given that the Cen-

tral Bank estimates just 25 per cent of the workforce is covered by an employer-sponsored pension plan.

The same Taskforce member said the "big hurdle" to be determined was whether to make employer-sponsored pension schemes mandatory at all Bahamian companies. They suggested that this would have to be phased-in, if adopted, because to introduce it all at once could undermine some firms' financial viability.

Other areas likely to come under scrutiny are the qualifications of pension fund managers and administrators, and ensuring

schemes have trustees independent of a plan's corporate sponsors, thus removing the temptation for companies to use fund assets for working capital.

Estimating that there was close to \$1.5 billion in public and private sector pension assets in the Bahamas, the Taskforce member said there was little to no regulatory oversight for most schemes.

"First, let's get a blueprint down, because what we have today is clearly unacceptable," the Taskforce member added. "City Markets has come back to remind us of how important this is."

The struggling supermarket chain's employees, and the union that represents many of them, are expressing increasing concern over the status of their pension plan, namely the Bahamas Supermarkets Profit Sharing Retirement Scheme.

The scheme is 100 per cent funded by City Markets, and no payments have been made into the plan

since 2007, as the supermarket chain racked up more than \$27 million in net losses under the disastrous BSL Holdings ownership, plunging it into financial turmoil it has never recovered from.

Current 78 per cent majority shareholder, Trans-Island Traders, and its principal, Mark Finlayson, had promised to publish a forensic accounting/actuarial investigation into the pension fund's status, but this has not happened to date.

The last audited financial statements for City Markets and its Bahamas Supermarkets parent, published for the 12 months to end-June 30, 2010, showed that the sums owed to the Bahamas Supermarkets Profit Sharing Retirement Scheme had increased from \$518,898 at year-end 2009 to \$971,452.

This is likely to relate to rental payments, totalling a minimal \$359,256 annually, which City Markets is supposed to pay to the pension fund.

The Bahamas Supermarkets Profit Sharing Retirement Scheme owns City Markets' head office on East-West Highway, and it is unclear whether these debts were ever made good.

Then there is the \$3 million 'sale and leaseback' deal that City Markets did with the pension fund, whereby the latter purchased certain equipment and improvements at the

company's Cable Beach store, in return for a monthly \$62,275 payment over a five-year period.

City Markets' external auditors, Deloitte & Touche, expressed concern over this arrangement, saying that the company had not conducted a fair value assessment of the leased assets. As a result, it was unable to conclude whether it was a finance or operational lease.

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

## S&P DOWNGRADES ITALY'S CREDIT RATING A NOTCH

NEW YORK Associated Press

STANDARD & POOR'S Ratings Services has downgraded Italy's credit rating by one notch, saying it sees weakening economic growth prospects for the nation and higher-than-expected levels of government debt.

S&P said Monday it cut Italy's long- and short-term sovereign credit ratings to "A/A-1" from "A+/A-1+." It said the main factors contributing to the downgrade are Italy's political and debt issues.

The ratings agency has a negative outlook on Italy's ratings. It says it anticipates that policy differences will likely limit Italy's ability to respond effectively to its debt crisis.

Italy is grappling with an outsized debt load and its government is under pressure to enact austerity measures to rein in spending.

But S&P says that weaker economic growth will likely limit the effectiveness of Italy's fiscal consolidation program.

### NOTICE

IN THE ESTATE OF WINNIE MAY ALBURY, late of Marsh Harbour, Abaco, The Bahamas

Notice is hereby given that all persons having any claims or demand against the above Estate are required to send the same duly certified in writing to the undersigned on or before the 1st day of November, A.D., 2011 after which date the Executrix will proceed to distribute the assets having regard only to the claims which she shall then have had notice.

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## NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **Elve Charles of Marsh Harbour, Abaco, Bahamas**, is applying to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, for registration/naturalization as a citizen of The Bahamas, and that any person who knows any reason why registration/naturalization should not be granted, should send a written and signed statement of the facts within twenty-eight days from the **19<sup>th</sup> day of SEPTEMBER, 2011** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

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PERMANENT SECRETARY

## BUSINESS

WASHINGTON  
Associated Press

# OBAMA ANNOUNCES DEBT PLAN BUILT ON TAXES ON THE RICH

IN A blunt rejoinder to congressional Republicans, President Barack Obama called for \$1.5 trillion in new taxes Monday, part of a total 10-year deficit reduction package totaling more than \$3 trillion. He vowed to veto any deficit reduction package that cuts benefits to Medicare recipients but does not raise taxes on the wealthy and big corporations.

"We can't just cut our way out of this hole," the president said.

The president's proposal would predominantly hit upper income taxpayers but would also reduce spending in mandatory benefit programs, including Medicare and Medicaid, by \$580 billion. It also counts savings of \$1 trillion over 10 years from the withdrawal of troops from Iraq and Afghanistan.

The deficit reduction plan represents an economic bookend to the \$447 billion in tax cuts and new public works spending that Obama has proposed as a short-term measure to stimulate the economy and create jobs. And it gives the president a voice in a process that will be dominated by a joint congressional committee charged with recommending deficit reductions of up to \$1.5 trillion.

His plan served as a sharp counterpoint to Republican lawmakers, who have insisted that tax increases should play no part in taming the nation's escalating national debt. Obama's plan would end Bush-era tax cuts for top earners and would limit their deductions.

## Share

"It's only right we ask everyone to pay their fair share," Obama said from the Rose Garden at the White House.

In issuing his threat to veto any Medicare benefits that aren't paired with tax increases on upper-income people, Obama said: "I will not support any plan that puts all the burden for closing our deficit on ordinary Americans."

Responding to a complaint from Republicans about his proposed tax on the wealthy, Obama added: "This is not class warfare. It's math."

The Republican reaction was swift and derisive.

"Veto threats, a massive tax hike, phantom savings, and punting on entitlement reform is not a recipe for economic or job growth or even meaningful deficit reduction," Senate Republican leader Mitch

McConnell said in a statement issued minutes after the president's announcement. "The good news is that the Joint Committee is taking this issue far more seriously than the White House."

Obama's proposal comes amid Democratic demands that Obama take a tougher stance against Republicans. And while the plan stands little chance of passing Congress, its populist pitch is one that the White House believes the public can support.

The core of the president's plan totals just over \$2 trillion in deficit reduction over 10 years. It would let Bush-era tax cuts for upper income earners expire, limit deductions for wealthier filers and close loopholes and end some corporate tax breaks. It also would cut \$580 billion from mandatory programs, including \$248 billion from Medicare. It also targets subsidies to farmers and benefits programs for federal employees.

Officials cast Obama's plan as his vision for deficit reduction, and distinguished it from the negotiations he had with House Speaker John Boehner in July as Obama sought to avoid a government default.

As a result, Obama's proposal includes no changes in Social Security and no increase in the Medicare eligibility age, which the pres-

ident had been willing to accept this summer.

Administration officials also said that Obama's \$1.5 trillion in new taxes is a goal that Congress could achieve through a broad overhaul of the tax code. They said the president's specific proposals represent one way to get to that goal under the existing tax code.

## Economists

Coupled with about \$1 trillion in cuts already approved by Congress and signed by the president, overall deficit reduction would total more than \$4 trillion, a number many economists cite as a minimum threshold to bring the nation's debt under control.

Key features of Obama's plan:

—\$1.5 trillion in new revenue, which would include about \$800 billion realized over 10 years from repealing the Bush-era tax rates for couples making more than \$250,000. It also would place limits on deductions for wealthy filers and end certain corporate loopholes and subsidies for oil and gas companies.

—\$580 billion in cuts in mandatory benefit programs, including \$248 billion in Medicare and \$72 billion in Medicaid and other health programs. Other mandatory benefit programs include farm subsidies and

federal employee benefits. Administration officials said 90 percent of the \$248 billion in 10-year Medicare cuts would be squeezed from service providers. The plan does shift some additional costs to beneficiaries, but those changes would not start until 2017.

—\$430 billion in savings from lower interest payment on the national debt.

—\$1 trillion in savings from drawing down military forces from Iraq and Afghanistan.

Republicans have ridiculed the war savings as gimmicky, but House Republicans included them in their budget proposal this year and Boehner had

agreed to count them as savings during debt ceiling negotiations with the president this summer.

Illustrating Obama's populist pitch on tax revenue, he suggested that Congress establish a minimum tax on taxpayers making \$1 million or more in income.

The measure — the White House calls it the "Buffett Rule" for billionaire investor Warren Buffett — is designed to prevent millionaires from taking advantage of lower tax rates on investment earnings than what middle-income taxpayers pay on their wages.

That minimum rate, however, is not included in the

White House revenue projections. Officials said it was a suggestion for Congress if it were to undertake an overhaul of the tax code.

At issue is the difference between a taxpayer's tax bracket and the effective tax rate that taxpayer pays.

Millionaires face a 35 percent tax bracket, while middle income filers fall in the 15 or 25 percent bracket.

But investment income is taxed at 15 percent and Buffett has complained that he and other wealthy people have been "coddled long enough" and shouldn't be paying a smaller share of their income in federal taxes than middle-class taxpayers.

# TYCO INTL PLANS TO BREAK UP INTO THREE COMPANIES

(AP) TYCO INTERNATIONAL LTD. said Monday it plans to separate into three independent, publicly-traded companies, a move that will mark its second breakup since 2007.

The company will create an ADT North America residential security business and separate companies for flow control products and commercial fire and security. Tyco said the new companies will have greater flexibility to pursue their own growth strategies than they would under the current corporate structure.

The ADT business, which provides security and fire alarm systems for homes and small businesses, will be incorporated in the United States.

It has annual revenue of about \$3 billion and about 16,000 employees.

The flow control business sells valves and controls for the energy, mining and water markets.

It also designs and installs heat management systems for the energy and general process industries.

Tyco said that business will be incorporated outside the United States, and the commercial fire and security business will remain incorporated in Switzerland.

In 2007, a scandal-plagued Tyco International Ltd. transitioned from an unwieldy conglomerate with annual revenue of \$41 billion into three separate, public companies.

It spun off its Covidien health care and Tyco Electronics businesses in a tax-free

distribution to shareholders to focus on fire and security and engineered products.

Tyco had swelled under the management of former CEO L. Dennis Kozlowski, who stepped down in 2002 amid a widely publicized fraud probe.

Kozlowski and ex-Chief Financial Officer Mark Swartz were convicted in 2005 of defrauding Tyco of hundreds of millions of dollars through theft and stock manipulation.

Tyco's board has unanimously approved the latest breakup plan, and the company expects to complete the deal in about a year.

Tyco directors will serve on the boards of all three companies. Chairman and CEO Ed Breen will become non-executive chairman of the commercial fire and security company, a director of the flow control company and a consultant for ADT North America.

The company, which is incorporated in Switzerland, said it will complete the separation by issuing tax-free stock dividends of the ADT and flow control businesses to Tyco shareholders.

It expects transaction costs of about \$700 million mainly for debt refinancing and restructuring, to be offset somewhat by lower interest expense and other operational benefits.

In afternoon trading, Tyco shares added 85 cents, or 2 percent, to \$44.55 while the broader markets declined. The stock is up about 15 percent in the year to date.

## FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE UNIT OF THE BAHAMAS

### PUBLIC NOTICE

No. 2 of 2011

September 15, 2011

#### NOTICE RELATING TO FRAUDULENT USE OF NAME AND LOGO OF THE FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE UNIT

It has come to the attention of the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) that there are documents in circulation that purports to have been issued by the office of the FIU. These documents consist of a Ministerial Memo in reference to "Funds Transfer Authentication Code" together with a letter bearing the address of an Internal Revenue Service Bahamas (IRSB) coming from the desk of Cassandra C. Odudu, Secretary of Revenue.

The public is hereby advised that these documents are false and is deemed a scam. The public is warned that at no time should any funds be transferred pursuant to the directions given in these documents. The public is further advised that the FIU did not release these documents and will not be held liable for any funds transferred or lost incurred as a result of following the instructions contained therein.

Persons who are aware of or have been affected by the following scam are asked to contact the FIU at 242-356-9808 or 242-326-3815 or forward a letter to the **Financial Intelligence Unit, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Norfolk House, Frederick Street, P.O. Box SB-50086, Nassau, Bahamas, Fax 242-322-5551**, to ensure that the matter is thoroughly investigated.

Any questions regarding this Notice should be directed to:

**Mr. Reginald Ferguson, QPM, Commissioner (Retired)**  
Director  
Financial Intelligence Unit  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Norfolk House  
Frederick Street  
P.O. Box SB-50086  
Nassau, Bahamas  
Tele: (242) 356-9808/ (242) 326-3815  
Fax: (242) 322-5551  
Email: [info@fiubahamas.bs](mailto:info@fiubahamas.bs)

# SPORTS

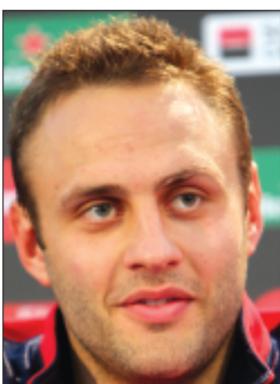
THE TRIBUNE • SECTION E

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2011

## Opportunity of a lifetime

### INSIDETRAK

**RUGBY  
WORLD CUP:  
RUSSIA  
ALL SET TO  
FACE ITALY  
TODAY**



TURN TO 3E...

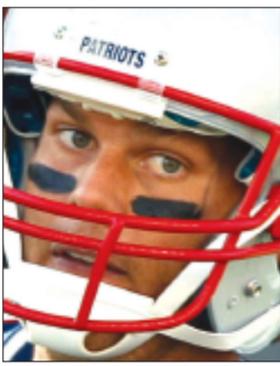
**HARGREAVES  
COULD MAKE  
MAN CITY  
DEBUT IN THE  
LEAGUE CUP**

TURN TO 4E...

**RYAN  
THROWS 4  
TDS, FALCONS  
RALLY PAST  
THE EAGLES  
35-31**

TURN TO 5E...

**NFL  
ROUNDUP:  
NEWTON,  
BRADY SET  
RECORDS  
IN WEEK 2**



TURN TO 7E.



**BERLIN BOUND:** Shown (l-r) are Carl and Shavonne Blades, Yolanda Deleveaux, Linda Williams, Michelle Gibson and Glen Bain. Missing is Dr Kathryn DeSouza. Photo by Gary Brathwaite

## Roadmasters members to compete in the Berlin Marathon on Sunday

By **BRENT STUBBS**  
Senior Sports Reporter  
bstubbs@tribunemedia.net

Seven members of the Roadmasters running club will be embarking on the opportunity of their life Wednesday when they travel to Berlin, Germany.

Husband and wife Carl and Shavonne Blades, Yolanda Deleveaux, Linda Williams, Michelle Gibson, Glen Bain and Dr Kathryn DeSouza will all be representing the Bahamas as they compete in the 38th BMW Berlin Marathon on Sunday.

"This is the first time that we will be competing in Berlin and the first time that anyone of us from Roadmasters would be competing in Europe," said Shavonne Blades, the spokeswoman for the contingent.

After trying to find some place exotic to compete, Blades said she

stumbled across the Berlin marathon website, got excited and immediately got a crowd of people to join her and her husband in the venture.

"We started planning this from September last year," she said.

With no real expectations of winning any divisional titles, Blades said the entire group is just looking forward to producing their personal best times and take in the sights of Berlin in the process.

"I want to go below 4:26 (four hours and 26 minutes), which is my marathon best time that I set in January at Marathon Bahamas," Blades said about her own personal achievement.

"The weather should be okay for us. We expect it to be about 60 degrees. It's a flat course with very little hill, so it should be perfect for us. I know I've put in the training for it, so I'm ready."

As for her peers, Blades said she anticipates that they will all do well

because they all "put in their 20 months of training and everybody feels good."

"Nobody is injured. Everybody is expecting to do their best times. We have two girls that will be doing their first marathon. They are just going for the experience, but they should do very well."

Former volleyball player Glen Bain said he has only been involved in marathon running for the past four years, but he predicts that he will have his best performance ever in Berlin.

"The temperature should be good, between 50-60 degrees. We wouldn't have to worry about the humidity," he said. "I've been training, I'm hot up and I know this will be a personal best for me, anyway in the sub-four club."

Having not had the opportunity before to travel to Europe, Bain said he jumped on the opportunity to make the trek to Berlin and based

on what happens this weekend, he intends to try and make it an event party.

"I tried to get in the London marathon, but they knocked me out twice, so Berlin here I come," said Bain, who did four hours and 19 mins in his first marathon after just nine months of training with Roadmasters.

For Michelle Gibson, Berlin will be her marathon debut after competing in about seven half marathons.

"I want to finish in about five hours. I don't have any huge expectations," Gibson said. "I just want to finish strong and just say that I did it."

Not having an opportunity before to venture as far as Europe, Gibson said when she found out about the trip, she decided to make it a vacation/run run.

SEE page 3E

## ATHLETES 'GAVE THEIR BEST' AT COMMONWEALTH YOUTH GAMES

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

JUNIOR athletes took centre stage as the Bahamas continued a busy summer for athletics in international competition at one of the newest events on the calendar.

The Bahamas' eight-member team representing the country at the fourth Commonwealth Youth Games in Douglas, Isle of Man, returned home amidst accolades from its coaching staff.

The team of six track and field athletes and two cyclists was led by Olympic gold medallist Tonique-Williams-Darling - she applauded the effort of the time despite the fact that no member of the squad

was able to medal.

"The athletes we took this year was like our second or third stream. All of the competitors reached the semifinal and, as they grow, they are going to be a force to reckon with," she said. "I know we always look at the bottom line but being there and watching the athletes compete, you know they gave their best."

"Anthonique Butler, our triple jumper, she steadily progressed throughout the competition. She held the bronze medal position up until the very last round. The Jamaican competitor on the very



WILLIAMS-DARLING

last jump went into the bronze medal position and knocked her into fourth."

Williams-Darling said the event was of great importance for the athletes for the off-the-field impact it had on the athletes - a testament to the emphasis the BOC has placed on youth development.

"It not only encouraged competition between the family of Commonwealth countries but it also placed emphasis on the exchange of culture between the competitors of the nations. Such an important aspect of these games was the fact

that each nation had to adopt a local school and also an entire day was planned with an emphasis on culture at the conclusion of the competition.

"A particular high point for our athletes was eating and being photographed with the prince. I am happy to report that our athletes performed all their reps and competed exceptionally well and I am sure they have their own stories on how this weekend impacted their lives," she said.

"I would like to thank the BOC for their continued interest in not only promoting Olympic sports but Olympians such as myself as they have entrusted me with accomplish-

SEE page 3E

## RACE WEEKEND

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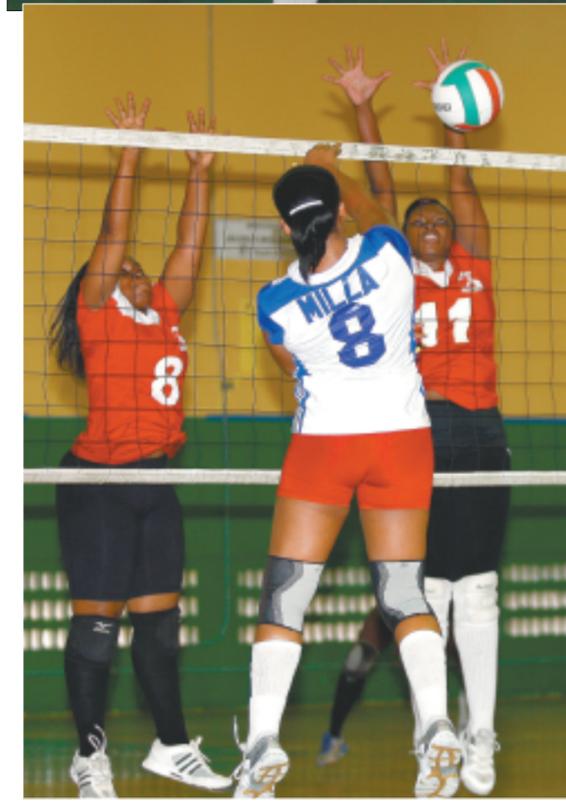
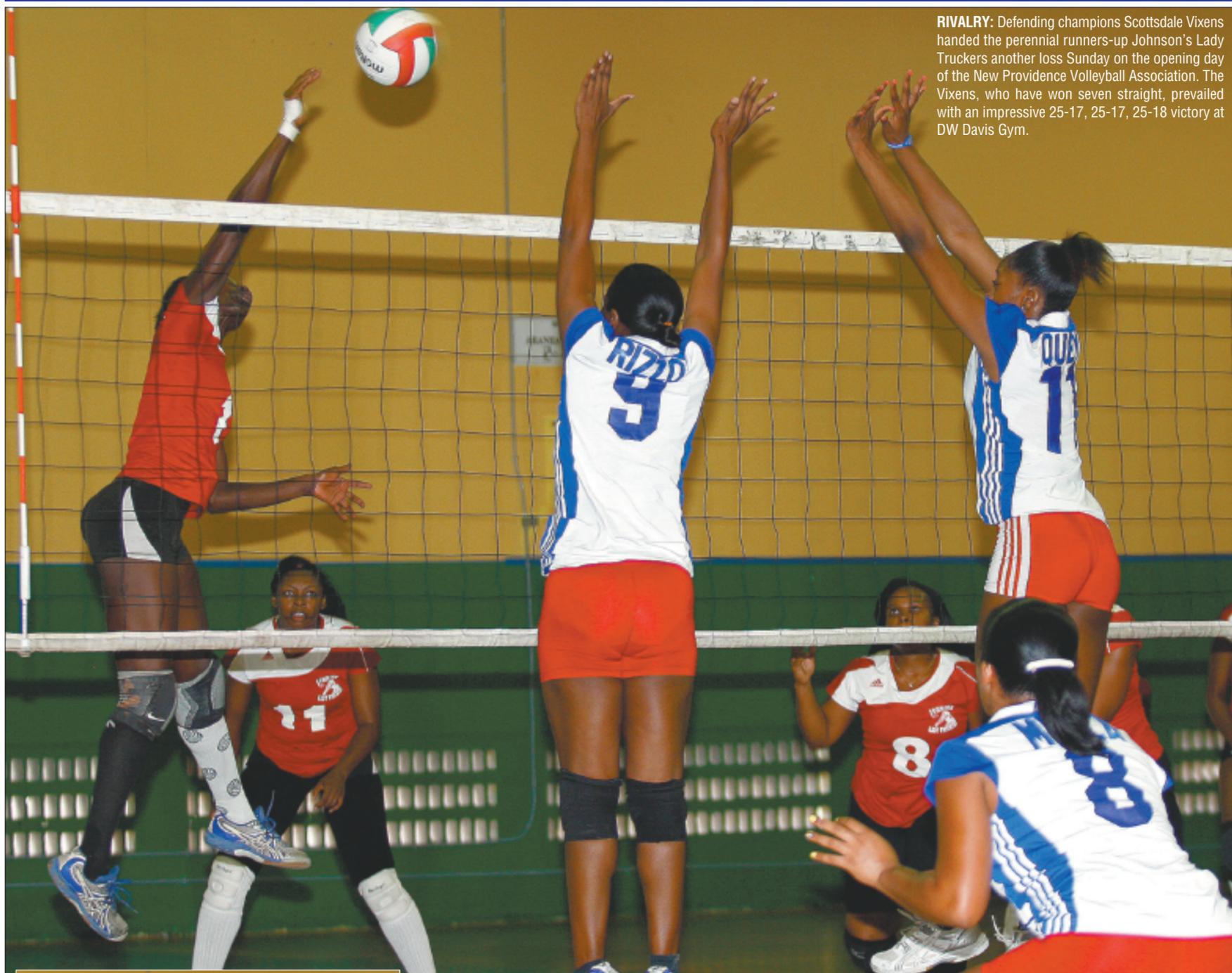
REGISTER!

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SPORTS

# SCOTTSDALE VIXENS DEFEAT THE JOHNSON'S LADY TRUCKERS

**RIVALRY:** Defending champions Scottsdale Vixens handed the perennial runners-up Johnson's Lady Truckers another loss Sunday on the opening day of the New Providence Volleyball Association. The Vixens, who have won seven straight, prevailed with an impressive 25-17, 25-17, 25-18 victory at DW Davis Gym.



Photos by Tim Clarke/Tribune staff



SPORTS

# CRICKET: POLICE THRASH ST GEORGE'S BY 102 RUNS; ST AGNES WINS BY SEVEN WICKETS OVER ST ALBAN'S

By Donovan Matthews  
Special to *The Tribune*

THE Police and St Agnes recorded victories as the Bahamas Cricket Association 20/20 competition continued over the weekend at two venues in Nassau.

The young Police team thrashed St George's by 102 runs on Saturday at Windsor Park, while St Agnes scored an exciting victory by seven wickets over St Alban's at Haynes Oval Sunday.

On Saturday, Greg Taylor Jr slammed 10 fours and six sixes in 104 before retiring as the Police amassed 219 for one from their quota of



AT BAT: Cricket players in action yesterday.

20 overs. He added 101 for the second wicket with Ashmid Allie, who made 50 not out.

St George's replied with 117 for 8 in their 20 overs. Kapry Kemp made 25 and Dakiel Bowe 22. Dwight Weakley claimed three wickets for 23 runs, Taylor two for two from two overs, and Derek Gittens two for 26.

Sunday's game saw St Alban's accumulating 174 for five from their 20 overs. Julio Jamison led the way with eight fours and three sixes in 60, while Andre Dos Ramos made 45 and Ravi Dhodwell 31.

For St Agnes, Christopher Johnson claimed two wickets for 25 runs and John Dolphin two for 32.

## Overs

In their reply, St Agnes reached 176 for three from 18.4 overs with captain Earl Thomas slamming two fours and five sixes in an unbeaten 50.

Donovan Matthews contributed 49 and Dolphin 37 in a second wicket stand of 90 which laid the platform for the onslaught by Thomas who added 75 for the fourth wicket with Constantine who finished on 26 not out.

Roadmasters members to compete in BMW Berlin Marathon on Sunday

### FROM page 1E

"I'm excited," she stated.

Gibson said being a part of Roadmasters has its benefits as it allows her to train with a group of people who provide a lot of camaraderie and inspiration to help her improve her time and performance.

"I'm really looking forward to this trip," she said.

Linda Williams, another first timer, said her goal is just to finish the 26.2 mile course.

"Seeing that this is my first marathon, I really want to just finish," she said.

"A good time would be great, but I wouldn't want to be over optimistic about it. I just want to finish. Once I finish and I get that medal, I will be more than happy.

So I'm looking forward to that. It's a challenge. A lot of it is mental. So you have to be healthy. Once you make up your mind to finish, you will."

Williams, who has ran a series of half marathons, said she couldn't ask for a better group of training partners to travel with to Berlin.

"We're going to have a lot of support. We're going to support each other," she said.

"It's a good group and we should have a very good trip."

# RUGBY WORLD CUP: RUSSIA SET TO FACE ITALY TODAY



RUSSIAN rugby player Adam Byrnes talks at a press conference in Nelson, New Zealand, Tuesday. Russia is slated to meet Italy in a Rugby World Cup Pool C match in Nelson today. (AP)

## ATHLETES 'GAVE THEIR BEST' AT COMMONWEALTH YOUTH GAMES

FROM page 1E

ing this task. More importantly, I would like to congratulate them on their quest to further the development of the youth and the future development of Olympians within our country."

The first Commonwealth Youth Games was held in August 2000 in Scotland where 733 athletes from 14 countries competed in eight sports over three days.

The second edition of the Commonwealth Youth Games took place in Australia in December 2004 and saw over 1,000 athletes and officials from 22 countries in a 10-sport programme.

This year, 1,000 athletes from 64 nations and territories will compete on the Isle of Man.

Sport disciplines contested include athletics, badminton, boxing, cycling, gymnastics, rugby 7s, and swimming.

The opening ceremonies took place on September 8 at the newly-revamped 3,000-seat National Sports Centre, 'The Bowl'.

"A lot of times controversy or adversity brings opportunity," said BAAA president Mike Sands.

"These games were scheduled very late. Persons we intended to compete in these games became unavailable for any number of reasons, including injury. Through the co-operation of the Olympic association we were able to add persons at the last minute which gave them the opportunity and it bodes well for the future development of the athletes that were able to travel."

### VOLLEYBALL NPVA ACTION

THE New Providence Volleyball Association commenced its 2011/2012 season at D W Davis Gym last evening.

In a repeat of last year's championships, both winning teams got off to a good start by adding the first win under their belt.

In the women's match, it took three sets for the defending champions Scottsdale Vixens to put away the Lady Truckers 25-17, 25-17 and 25-18.

The youthful Quey Wilson led the Vixens and all scorers with 12 points for the win. In a losing effort, Tia Charlow led the Truckers with seven points.

In the men's match, after losing the first set 25-14, the defending champions Scotia-bank Defenders kept their composure, made the adjustments and won the other two exciting sets 25-23, 25-23 before quickly disposing of the Technicians in the 4th set, 25-14, to win the match.

Sherwayne Arthurs led the Defenders with 16 points followed by Sherrick Forbes and Chauncey Cooper with 12 and 10 points respectively.

In a losing effort, Renaldo Knowles scored 16 points and Byron Ferguson 11 points.

Games are slated to continue Wednesday at the D W Davis Gym:

7:30pm - Lady Techs vs COB Caribs (W)

9pm - Saints vs Intruders (M)

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

### SOFTBALL BSC MEETING

THE Baptist Sports Council is scheduled to hold a meeting Saturday at the Bahamas Baptist College, Jean Street, for all churches interested in participating in the 2011 Bishop Neil C Ellis Softball Classic.

The classic is tentatively set to start at the Baillou Hills Sporting Complex on October 1. It will feature competition in the 19-and-under, co-ed and men's divisions. There is a registration fee per team in each division.

Also during the meeting, plans will be disclosed for the 2011 Rev Enoch Backford Track and Field Classic. The classic is set for October 22 at Thomas A Robinson Track and Field Stadium.

### SOFTBALL/ TRACK BSC ACTIVITIES

THE Baptist Sports Council has announced the dates for the final two events on its sporting calendar. The 2011 Bishop Neil C. Ellis Softball Classic is scheduled to start on Saturday, October 1 at the Baillou Hills Sporting Complex. It will feature competition in the men, co-ed and 19-

and-under divisions. And the Rev Enoch Backford Track and Field Classic will follow on Saturday, October 22, at the Thomas A Robinson Track and Field Stadium.

Persons interested in more details are asked to contact league president Brent Stubbs at stubbobs@gmail.com or secretary Jonique Webb at joniquewebb@hotmail.com

### CONCHMAN REGISTRATION UNDERWAY

THE 25th annual Conchman Triathlon is scheduled for Saturday, November 5 in Freeport, Grand Bahama. It will comprise of a one-kilometre swim, a 25k bike ride and a 5k run.

Interested persons can register by logging onto the Facebook Event Page, e-mail organizer Bert Bell at bertbell@coralwave.com or calling him at 727-5886 or 727-5381.

### TRIATHLON REGISTRATION DEADLINE

ALL persons who have not yet registered have until Wednesday, September 21, to sign up for the UWC Triathlon. Registration can be done online at www.paradisetri.com or in person at Bahama Republic, East Bay Street. The event is scheduled for 7:30am Sunday, September 25, starting at the Clifton Heritage Park. The sprint triathlon will comprise of a 750m swim, 20kilometre bike ride and a 5km run.

The Tribune

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SPORTS

# ISLAND LUCK TRUCKERS TAKE OUT DORIN UNITED HITMEN 5-4



Photos by Tim Clarke/Tribune staff

**FAST PITCH:** Island Luck Truckers (red) defeated the Dorin United Hitmen 5-4 in New Providence Softball Association action at the Banker's Field on Saturday night.

