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Governor Frits Goedgedrag (right) and incoming Prime Minister Ben Komproe signing the documents for the installation of the new Antillean Cabinet in the governor's residence in Curaçao yesterday.

## Part of Cabinet sworn in, St. Maarten members today

PHILIPSBURG—The candidate Minister and State Secretary of the Democratic Party of St. Maarten were not among the mem-

bers of the new Antillean Cabinet sworn in by Governor Frits Goedgedrag in Curaçao yesterday.

Deputy leader Marcel Gumbs explained there were problems with the draft governing accord, which the party had received only

last weekend. The party believed the document did not correctly reflect certain agreements made in the two working groups that amended the draft accord of last year's failed attempt to form a FOL-led Central Government.

Nevertheless the cabinet headed for the time being by Ben Komproe was installed, albeit not yet with all the members. In addition to Komproe (FOL) as (temporary) Prime Minister and Minister of Justice, Richard Salas (FOL) as Minister of Transport and Communication, Ersilia de Lannoy (PNP) as Finance Minister, Joan Theodora-Brewster (PNP) as Health and Social Affairs Minister, Errol Cova as Economic and Labour Affairs Minister, Herbert Domacassé (UPB) as Education Minister and Maurice Adriaens as

Continued on page 7

## Lee questions gov't commitment to tourism

PHILIPSBURG—Government's level of commitment to promote tourism is being questioned by St. Maarten Hospitality and Trade Association (SHTA) President Emil Lee, especially in light of reports that the NAF. 4 million earmarked for marketing is no longer available.

"The long-awaited NAF. 4 million is reportedly no longer available. Although the funds are supposed to be safe, the lack of accessibility is affecting the continuity of summer promotions," he stated in an SHTA press statement yesterday.

Continued on page 5

## Godett suggests brother, sister as Prime Minister

WILLEMSTAD—While ex-"formateur" Ben Komproe has become prime minister for the time being because FOL leader Anthony Godett is under investigation, the latter is convinced he will assume the seat of prime minister eventually, something he calls "inevitable" after winning a whopping 34 per cent of the votes in the recent Island Council elections.

Until he has been cleared of

charges of corruption, Godett will have to lie low. However, he is adamant that there be a Godett heading the new cabinet and is thinking about nominating one of his five siblings to be prime minister instead.

"Then we would at least have a Godett as a leader. I wonder if they would get through the screen-

Continued on page 3

### IN BRIEF

#### PHILIPSBURG CRIME DOWN

Half-yearly crime figures indicate that there has been a 16 per cent drop in crime since the beginning of this year. Page 4.

#### PHILIPSBURG CAR THEFT INCREASE

Insurance companies and brokers have recorded an increase in stolen cars by some 30 per cent compared to last year. The combined cost for replacement of entire vehicles in some cases and parts claims in others is almost US \$500,000 for this year alone. Page 5.

#### PHILIPSBURG DUTCH TEAM

THE HAGUE—A heavyweight delegation of Dutch Parliamentarians headed by Chairman Frans Weisglas will be arriving in St. Maarten on August 27 for a three-day visit to the three Windward Islands. Page 6.

#### PHILIPSBURG MAN KISSED 7-YEAR-OLD

Although he admits to kissing a seven-year-old girl, G.A.L. (33) of St. Maarten says he did not put his tongue in her mouth. Page 4.



Saddam Hussein's sons, Qusay and Uday (R), chat in an undated file photograph during a Ba'ath Party election reception. The search for Saddam drew fresh impetus yesterday after U.S. soldiers killed his two sons in a fierce six-hour gunbattle in northern Iraq. For more see page 19.

# Fair Chance

The Netherlands Antilles has a new Central Government. Its installation was anything but "business as usual." The leader of the party heading the Cabinet could not become prime minister, because he is under investigation, prompting a move to have "formateur" Komprou of the same party hold the fort for now, in addition to being the Minister of Justice. Certainly not an ideal situation, also considering the importance and problems of law enforcement, but under the circumstances perhaps the best option. FOL leader Anthony Godett and his followers must be in any case be commended for displaying a responsible attitude by not riling up the public, which could easily have had disastrous consequences, for both Curaçao and the Antilles as a whole.

The fact that final agreement on the governing accord has not yet been reached is also highly unusual, while the absence of the DP-ST. Maarten nominees at yesterday's ceremony confirms that this government is getting off to a rocky start, to say the least. Hopefully that matter can be resolved quickly, because a government without a governing accord or programme is asking for trouble.

Having said all that, however, the country in any case has a new government, which has the majority in Parliament as well as the moral authority based on its political backing by the voters to get on with the people's business. Any more delay, keeping a lame-duck government in power, would not have been in the interest of the people. For that the problems and issues facing the Netherlands Antilles today are simply too big and too pressing - matters such as managing the continuing financial difficulties in a responsible manner, despite the incoming coalition's promise to do more for the socially weak. Then there is the constitutional issue, with St. Maarten trying to get out of the Antilles, while Holland has introduced a whole new element in the debate by proposing a status as Ultra-Peripheral Territory of the European Union. The new Cabinet deserves a fair chance, despite all the problems leading up to its installation, to tackle all these issues. It's time to get to work.

## The Daily Herald

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## WEATHER

Today: Variably cloudiness, with an isolated shower.

Winds: Mainly Easterly, 15 to 25 miles per hour, with occasional gusts to 35 miles per hour.

Sea conditions: Moderate chop to choppy.

Wind force: 4 to 6, occasionally up to 7.

Waves: 2 to 7 feet.

Swells: Easterly, 2 to 7 feet.

A small craft advisory is still in effect for the coastal waters of the islands.

Barometric pressure: Near normal.

Barometric tendency: Rising.

Forecast high: 32°C 90°F

Forecast low: 25°C 77°F

Remnants of Tropical Depression #6, now a strong tropical wave, continue to move Westward away from the local area. However, lingering moisture will induce cloudiness and some showers, maybe an isolated thundershower, across the local region during this forecast period. Seas can locally become choppy to rough during rainfall. A small craft advisory will remain in effect. Weather conditions should improve by this afternoon.

**HAZARDOUS WEATHER OUTLOOK:** None.

**SPECIAL FEATURES:** Names of possible tropical storms/hurricanes of the Atlantic hurricane season (now through November 30): Erika, Fabian, Greg, the Henri, Isabel, Juan, Kate, Larry, Mindy, Nicholas, Odette, Peter, Rose, Sam, Teresa, Victor and Wanda.

A poorly defined tropical wave located yesterday along 30 degrees West and South of 19 degrees North was moving West around 10 to 15 miles per hour, with low level cyclonic rotation visible in the cloud field, but no important development expected for the next couple of days. Either tropical storm formation is not expected through the forecast period.

Outlook until Thursday midday: Variable cloudiness, with a few isolated showers.

Rainfall probability: Some isolated showers possible.

Rainfall potential: 1 to 3 mm.

Sunrise: 5:47am; Sunset: 6:49pm.

SMART PLAY	SXM DAILY NUMBERS	CURAçAO
0659	29266	1430
5284	32675	4746
4370	43665	6407

## CRUISE SHIPS IN PORT TODAY

Vessel	Place	Arrival	Departure	Agent
Carnival Triumph <td>Fri <td>7:00</td> <td>17:00</td> <td>S.E.L. Maduro &amp; Sons</td> </td>	Fri <td>7:00</td> <td>17:00</td> <td>S.E.L. Maduro &amp; Sons</td>	7:00	17:00	S.E.L. Maduro & Sons

## ST. MAARTEN

**POLICE STATION**  
Philipsburg tel. 542-2222  
**HOT LINE** 118  
4163331  
**FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
Tel. 542-6001 or 120  
**HOSPITAL**  
Medical Center, Cay Hill  
24-hour Emergency Service  
tel. 543-1111  
**AMBULANCE**  
Philipsburg tel. 542-2111  
Red Cross Building 545-8083  
Patients/Doctors: Dr. Bouman, Dr. Byrson, Dr. Bus, Dr. Hermannes, Dr. Krol, Dr. Mercier, Dr. Schellen, Dr. & Spencer, 4 hours call; 577010. Patients: Dr. V. Daterni, Dr. Foeken, Dr. Herles, Dr. van Oech and Dr. Tijden, please call cell; 577010. Patients of Dr. van der Wass, please call 570444. Patients of Dr. Adig, Dr. Dennoua and Dr. Gumbs should contact their own numbers.  
**ANIMAL AMBULANCE** Team  
542-0900  
**CRIME STOPPERS**  
542-0500  
**POLICE TYPING LINE:** 543-TIPS(8477)

## TELEPHONE

Tel: 542-2211  
E. Caribbean Cellular: 542-4100  
Tel: 542-2222  
**ST. MAARTEN TOURIST OFFICE**  
W.G. Buncamper road, Vineyard Building, tel. 542-2937, fax: 542-2734  
**ST MAARTEN ZOO**  
Madame Estate, tel: 543-2000  
Open daily 10 am - 6 pm.  
October-March 9 am - 5 pm.  
Admission residents: \$10.5; Kids \$5. Non-residents: Adults: \$5.  
By Bay Community Council: meeting is: Thursday at 8:30am Sun/Flower Kinder Garden School, Union Rd. Cole Bay at 7:30pm  
**SERVICE CLUBS**  
ROTARY meeting at Divi Little Bay Beach Resort, every Wednesday at noon. Rotary/Midweek every Tuesday 6-8pm, The Dail Surf & Turf Restaurant, MaHo Plaza 2nd level.  
**LIENS** meeting at the Upper Princess Quarter Community Centre Lions Den in Sucker Garden every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 8 pm.  
**ST MAARTEN LEO CLUB** meeting at Jubilee Library 1st, 3rd Friday every 4 weeks at 6:30 pm.

**KIWANIS** meets at WIFOL Building on Thursday each month at 7:30pm.  
**Kowalew Key Club** of the St. Maarten Academy meeting at the St. Maarten Academy every Friday on Holland Way.

**JAYCEES** meeting at the WIFOL Building every last Thursday of the month 8 P.M.

**ST MARTIN MUSEUM**  
From 17:00 - 7, Philipsburg, tel 542-4917

Opening hours from March 1st:  
Monday - Friday: 10am. to 4pm.  
Saturday, 10 - 12 noon  
Sundays: closed.

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**  
Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday in the R.C. Fellowship Hall (Philipsburg) at 6pm. Tuesday, Thursday 6pm. Red Cross, Airport Road. Saturday and Sunday at Mullet Bay beach next to restaurant at 6:30pm. Tel: 571271 (ext) 544-3003 (evening)

**AIDS COORDINATOR** Shannavaan  
Tel 5422079  
**Health Department, e-mail: health@stmaarten.net**

**NATURE FOUNDATION ST. MAARTEN**  
Care Bay Marina, Office Unit #9 P.OB 83.  
Philipsburg Tel: 542-0251, Fax: 542-0261 Email: nature@netagic.com

**PHILIPSBURG JUBILEE LIBRARY**  
Off: EW:1026; 12; Tel. 542-2697.  
Open: Mon: 4:30-12; Tue: 9:30-4; Wed: 9:30-12:30

4:30-7; 4:30-7:30

**WOMEN'S DESK:** Fortstraat 141 (opposite Tel-Com), Monday - Friday 9am-5pm. Tel: 542-7940. Fax: 542-7914.

**SFEF HOME:** providing shelter and support to victims of family violence. P.OB 636. Tel. 333. (0059) 879523. Email: stef@stintmarten.net

**CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT, E.C. Rotterdam** street 116. Tel: 542-10036-1008. Fax: 542-100

**FRENCH HONORARY CONSUL, P.O.B.** 803. Philipsburg, Tel: (00590) 879898. Fax: (00590) 879622. Email: Stantilles.GRANDE@wanadoo.fr

**LEGAL AND CENTER:** Law Clinic, open every Saturday 10:00am - 12:00 noon. Free advice on personal legal issues. Administration Building, tel. 5422237

**Coastguard NAA** (24hrs) tel. 542-2244

**THE ST. MAARTEN RED CROSS, (24hrs)**, #41 Airport Road Simpson Bay, Tel: 542-6283

**St. Maarten's International Bank,**  
**SALVATION ARMY** Unit 59 R. 35 Cole Bay P.O.Box 518; Tel: 542-6424 or 542-5783. Sun 9:00am. Tue 7:00pm. Wed 6:30pm. Thu 7:00pm. Fri 4:40pm

**ST MAARTEN CHAMBER OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN:** meets first general monthly meeting every third Monday at the Delta Hall at 7:00 pm.

**DIABETES INFORMATION CENTER:** A.T. Bigg Road behind Desktop/phone building

Free blood-glucose testing every Thursday from 5:30 - 7:00 pm.

**St. U. Maarten's** Martin (USA military),

contact: Janet Lambert 507716 or 00590 590 894005.

**SKALCULUS ST. MAARTEN/ST. MARTIN** meets Tel: Tuesday of the Month. For location call: Skalc@scijama.net

**ST. MARTIN**

**POLICE MUNICIPALE** tel. (00590) 590 87 57 104

**GENDARMERIE** tel. (00590) 590 87 57 110

**FIRE DEPARTMENT** tel. (00590) 590 87 57 100

**AMBULANCE** Office tel. (00590) 590 87 74 14

Home tel. (00590) 590 87 72 000

**HOSPITAL** tel. (00590) 590 87 57 607

**DISPENSARIE** Margot tel. (00590) 590 87 57 803

**DISPENSARIE Orliens** 9 am - 3:30 pm tel. (00590) 590 87 37 21

**C.R.O.S.S.** Center, Research, Organization, Security is on standby 24 hours at 0598 705292.

**SERVICE CLUBS**

**ROTARY** meeting at Flamboyant Ho-

**PROFESSIONAL WOMEN:** meets first general monthly meeting every third Tuesday at the

Northstar, Margot at 7:30 pm.

**MUSEUM ST. MAARTEN**

**MUSEUM ST. MARTIN**

Facing the grand parking at Marina

Royale - Margot, Open from 9am-1pm /

3pm - 7 pm, tel. (00590) 590 29 2242.



Ben Komproe taking the oath of office as Prime Minister.

## Man in the News

# Bernhard "Ben" Komproe

WILLEMSTAD—The new Prime Minister of the Netherlands Antilles was born in Curaçao on October 22, 1942.

The temporary head of the new cabinet, pending the outcome of the corruption case in which FOL leader and candidate prime minister Anthony Godett is a suspect, was already FOL's candidate for Minister of Justice and will remain in charge of that portfolio.

Komproe is a relative newcomer to the political arena. He was placed number 5 on the FOL list of candidates in

the last election, climbing quite steeply from 15th place on the 1999 election list.

Komproe was formerly interim director of the Directorate for Maritime Affairs at the Ministry of Transport

and Communication. Before that he was employed at the section for Social affairs of the Government.

He studied public and business management in the Netherlands.

## Generator problems blamed for outages

PHILIPSBURG—Troubles with two large generators of local utilities company GEBE have been blamed for the erratic power outages on Mon-

day. The company has been experiencing mechanical failures quite frequently over the past months.

GEBE Managing Director Julius Lambert said one of the generators had been repaired by company technicians and was back in full operation. However, a part from Fort Lauderdale, Florida, is needed to repair the other unit. This part was expected on the island last night.

With the recent unscheduled outages growing in frequency, some residents are speculating that these outages could be blamed on GEBE's functioning with old equipment and quite possibly an upgrade to better service the public is in order.

# Buena Vista to rehire 6 Port de Plaisance staff

PHILIPSBURG—Buena Vista Vacation Resorts has pledged to rehire six of the eight front desk staff at Port de Plaisance once it takes over the 88-suite hotel on Friday, August 1.

The company will meet with the workers sometime this week and the issue will be discussed. When it officially takes over the hotel in August, Buena Vista will also reopen the hotel's laundry and employ four persons for each shift. During the low season one shift will work and in the high season there will be two.

Explaining that Buena Vista was looking forward to working with the staff, Managing Director Ralph Abbott said the workers would not be offered contracts with a two-month trial period as is customary and assured that all workers would be part of the company's permanent staff.

"We will give 80 per cent of these workers new contracts. It will be done this week, once we have a meeting with our attorney to finalise the contracts," Abbott said Tuesday. He said there were plans to hire additional workers during the high season when there is likely to be a demand for more staff.

"When we have 70 to 80 per cent occupancy in the hotel we will need additional staff, but we can't say how many at this time," he noted. The hiring of additional staff is part of the company's plan to deliver superior service to clients. The company will also invest between US \$700,000 and \$1 million to refurbish the hotel (see related story).

Applications were made to the Island Labour office in September 2002 to terminate the services of nine employees (one has since resigned). No decision has reportedly

been made on the applications and Interim Head of the Island Labour Office Kenneth Lopes could not be reached to comment on the matter, as he is currently off-island.

Part of the company's face lift will also be enhanced security measures, which will be implemented from August. Each vehicle entering the establishment will be stopped by security guards and will be given a visitor card relevant to its reasons for visiting. To execute this, two additional security guards will be hired.

With regard to timeshare, Abbott said a "concierge" would be assigned to each guest staying at the hotel. The

concierge will be responsible for enhancing the comfort of the guest and will assist in any areas necessary. Guests will be invited to presentations to determine whether they want to join the Buena Vista clientele.

Asked to respond to statements by President of the Windward Islands Federation of Labour (WIFOL) Theophilus Thompson that WIFOL has a Collective Labour Agreement (CLA) with Princess Port de Plaisance management that any new company will have to honour, Abbott said: "I will work along with the CLA in the best manner for both the company and the employees."

## Port de Plaisance hotel to get US \$1M face-lift

PHILIPSBURG—The new management of the Port de Plaisance hotel, which is officially taking over on Friday, August 1, will spend US \$700,000 and \$1 million to give the hotel a face lift.

The cosmetic works to the hotel began around July 15 and will continue for the next 11 months, after which the hotel is expected to have a new look. The renovation is part of the company's plan to revitalize the hotel for guests.

In giving details of the renovation works, Managing Director Ralph Abbott told The Daily Herald Tuesday that the exterior of the hotel would be repainted and furniture and appliances would be replaced, among other things.

"Port de Plaisance is in a good state to start with, but we are going to start off with some cosmetic works and

internal renovation," said Abbott. "We are cleaning up to bring the hotel up to a five-star status."

To execute these works, two maintenance persons will be hired. The two employees will be working under the existing maintenance company operating at Port de Plaisance. The hotel outsourced its maintenance department months ago as part of the company's restructuring process.

The takeover by Buena Vista Vacation Resorts is the final part of Port de Plaisance's restructuring plan, which began months ago with various departments being outsourced to independent companies. The agreement with Buena Vista was reached on Monday, July 7, after months of negotiations that began back in March 2002.

## Godett

Continued from page 1.

ing," Godett said. "It would prove if it is just the name Godett they don't want to see."

Asked if he was disappointed, Godett said no. "I already knew we're not in a democracy. One month before the elections I was arrested, kidnapped from my home and thrown in jail." He said the Antillean security service VNA, the Prosecutor's Office and Holland were the ones calling the shots in Curaçao. "It is clear that the population went to the polls for nothing."

Godett has no intention of organizing mass protests, something some had feared, also considering the link between the May 30, 1969, riots and the founding of FOL by, among others, Godett's father. "I'm a passive man, I will not call on the people to riot. I believe in God and leave it in his hands."

The 44-year-old FOL leader has decided to take a short vacation in the Dominican Republic with his female companion and eight-year-old son to recover from all the stress.



Technicians working on the cables that will be rejoined today.

## TelEm relocates damaged Simpson Bay cabinet today

PHILIPSBURG — St. Maarten Telephone Company TelEm will relocate the cables in its Simpson Bay cabinet, which was damaged when a vehicle slammed into it recently.

To relocate the cables to the new cabinet, technicians

will have to "cut over" a number of telephone lines from the damaged cables to the new cabinet, TelEm said in a press release Tuesday. The exercise will begin at 7:00am today and will continue until about 12:00 noon. "The technicians will have

to cut and rejoin more than 400 pairs of residential and business telecommunications cables, and are (alerting) members of the public about the (exercise)," Deputy Director Technical Operations Eldert Louisa said in the release.

"Once service in certain sections of the Simpson Bay and Cole Bay areas is interrupted, homes and businesses will start coming back on line one at a time, until all lines are reconnected. It is a very skilled operation, with an entire network of fine wires that have to be connected one at a time," he noted.

The repairs follow the damaging of the cabinet when a vehicle crashed into it recently, causing extensive damage. The entire operation is expected to cost the phone company about US \$50,000.

## Man arrested for molesting 5-year-old

PHILIPSBURG — Police arrested R.M. (40) of India on Monday based on allegations that he had touched a 5-year-old girl in her vaginal area.

The matter is being dealt with as very sensitive and authorities are still investigating.

Police spokesman Geronimo Juliet, who con-

firmated the arrest yesterday, told The Daily Herald the man had been detained Monday at 5:00pm while under the influence of alcohol. Juliet said, "The mother of the young child came to the police station and reported that the man had molested her child."

However, according to Juliet, the man denied having touched the child in question in a foul way, although he admitted that he had been in the presence of children. Juliet said R.M. would remain in custody until the matter was resolved.

# Crime down 16% in six months

PHILIPSBURG — Half-yearly crime figures indicate that there has been a 16 per cent drop in crime since the beginning of this year.

Police Chief Commissioner Derrick Holiday told The Daily Herald yesterday he would like to see that trend continue and would try to bring the numbers even further

down with constant rigorous patrols and more solved cases. "I believe that if you solve cases, you make people who want to commit crimes more careful," he said.

The figures, which cover the period January-June, show a total of 1,036 crimes committed in that period. The number of murders (10) represented

the only crime mentioned that actually increased. Last year there were two.

"There were 25 per cent less robberies since the beginning of this year," said Holiday. To him, though still high, the numbers indicate that something has been done well. "Let's hope we continue at this rate," he said.



Firefighters are trying to put out the flames caused by a fan in the bedroom of a house in Cay Hill.

## Fan starts fire in Cay Hill

PHILIPSBURG — A faulty fan started a fire that completely gutted the bedroom of an apartment in Cay Hill opposite Ram's Food World yesterday at 6:00pm.

The tenant of the apartment was apparently at the supermarket at the time the fire started and neighbours had to contact the Fire Department for assistance.

Senior Fire Officer Marco London told The Daily Herald the "fire was caused by an electrical failure in a fan, which sparked and created a fire which soon caught the mattress in the bedroom."

"With the help of detectives from the Police Department we were able to inspect the bedroom after the fire and conclude that the fire was an electrically ignited fire caused by a faulty fan," he said. "We were able to save the rest of the building from any fire damage and kept the water damage to a minimum."

He said burning debris had been dragged from the build-



This bedroom was burnt by fire which officials said was caused by a faulty fan.

ing and extinguished. "Once we were finished with the fire in the room we stayed around for a while to make sure that there was no further threat of fire," London said.

# Insurance companies record high increase in car theft



Toyota Corolla



Hyundai Elantra



Mitsubishi Lancer

PHILIPSBURG—Insurance companies and brokers have recorded an increase in stolen cars of some 30 per cent compared to last year. The combined cost for replacement of entire vehicles in some cases and parts claims in others is almost US \$500,000 for this year alone.

However, insurance companies note that more cars are being stolen than are recorded. They attribute this to the fact that rental companies primarily have "third party policies" on their cars and are not covered for damage incurred while the cars are stolen.

Nagico Insurance, which sells comprehensive insurance policies to only a small group of car rental agencies, has offered discounts to customers who use the new "gearshift locks" on their cars.

The devices are now being sold by EBS and are used to ensure that once the car is parked it is not moved. To use the gearshift lock you simply put the car in park and apply a lock to an already installed clamp. The key for this device is one of the primary security features, as it cannot be duplicated.

Meanwhile, car dealers for Hyundai Accents/Elantras and Toyota Corollas say that security improvements to the cars are underway. While aware that their cars are being targeted, car dealers said the demand for their cars must be noted.

Insurance companies have also expressed concern that while nine out of 10 cars are sold in America with complete security systems, in St. Maarten the cars are almost always sold without. In their opinion this is a cost-cutting measure by dealers who order these cars, which should not be tolerated.

Neil Henderson of Henderson Insurances is of the opinion that not enough is

done by authorities to educate local persons on things to look for when purchasing used cars, as too often people end up with cars bought locally that have been stolen locally.

Car dealers on the island as well as the insurance companies have noted that the most targeted cars are Toyota Corollas, Mitsubishi Lancers, and Hyundai Accents/Elantras.

F.W. Vlaun and Son stated that its new Toyota Corollas for 2004, which come out in November, have been equipped with "immobilizers" that ensure that even if the key is copied it cannot be used in the ignition.

Marshall Motors said it had equipped its 1997, 1998, and 1999 Hyundai Elantras/Accents with similar immobilizers and noted that if persons had these cars for personal use and wanted the added security they could have it installed for US \$150.

According to Nagico, which handles about 80 per cent of the insurance on vehicles, "with the present claims totalling 29 to date, if the theft continues on the same trend it would have increased from last year's total by more than 30 per cent."

Some insurance companies and car rental agencies believe the theft is based on market demand for parts. Apparently there are garages that work with youngsters who steal specific parts and in some cases the entire car. Some insurance companies claim that the car dealers are not stocking enough parts to ensure availability.

However, both Eric Vlaun of F.W. Vlaun and Son and Sales Manager of Marshall Motors Selwyn Corin said, "The availability of parts is a non-issue, as the people who steal these parts are generally thieves and have no interest in purchasing parts."

Vlaun noted that Toyota had embarked on an improved strategy and had built a mega-warehouse in Fort Lauderdale and Miami, Florida, in the United States where all dealers in the Caribbean would have a section where their parts were stored.

"What this means is that the long wait for parts from Japan has been eliminated and now if it is not here we can easily get it from our section of the warehouse in Miami," said Vlaun. He also said the procedure was being copied by Mitsubishi, but it was not completely ready, as the company was still only stocking parts for cars sold in the U.S.

Both companies have always ensured availability of parts for the cars. However, based on the popularity of these cars, with car rental agencies using them as well, many thieves target them instead of purchasing parts.

## LEE

Continued from page 1.

terday.

The island's tourism industry needs to be developed and nurtured, Lee stated. He added that with the help of the 9-11 recovery fund and the Hurricane Lenny Recovery Fund, St. Maarten had managed to regain some of its consumer awareness, but that increase in awareness was slowly being lost.

Lee said, "Out of sight is out of mind. In order for marketing to be effective you must be able to plan for the long term. Marketing campaigns should be designed and organized with a year-long perspective, but without knowing what funds are really available you can never make a plan." Recent successful efforts to

diversify into Europe should not be undermined by the inability to meet commitments to promotions and sales support, he emphasised. "The commitment of the St. Maarten Tourist Bureau is not being questioned, but the financial contribution of the Island Government doesn't mirror that same commitment."

"If St. Maarten is to improve its financial stability, it must find a way to nurture the tourism sector back to health. The hotels have just barely managed to survive hurricanes, 9-11 and the Iraq war, but only after depleting cash reserves and destroying their average daily rates," Lee stated.



## Important Notice

TELCell regrets to inform the public that landline services to the Belvedere and Middle Region areas (547 - XXXX) will be interrupted on the following days:

**Wednesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>**, from 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., **Thursday, July 24<sup>th</sup>**.

**Thursday, July 24<sup>th</sup>**, from 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. **Friday, July 25<sup>th</sup>**.

**Friday, July 25<sup>th</sup>**, from 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. **Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup>**.

TELCell also regrets to inform the public that GSM pre-paid services throughout the coverage network will be affected during the following service times and dates.

**Friday, July 25<sup>th</sup>**, from 6:00 p.m. to 12:00 noon, **Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup>**.

- All GSM prepaid Customers, will be affected during the entire service time.

**Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup>**, from 6:00 p.m. to 12:00 noon, **Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup>**.

- All GSM prepaid Customers, will be affected during the entire service time.

**Sunday, July 28<sup>th</sup>**, from 6:00 p.m. to 12:00 noon, **Monday, July 29<sup>th</sup>**.

- All GSM prepaid Customers, will be affected during the entire service time.

TELCell apologizes to the general public for the abovementioned disruptions in service. We ask for continued patience from customers while service operations are carried out.

Please Call 155 Should you require further Customer Service Information.

## AGENDA

**ST. EUSTATIUS**  
Police Station 182333  
Emergency 111  
Hot Line 108  
Fire Department 120  
Hospital 182211/182371  
Landsradio 182210  
Post Office 182207  
St. Eustatius Historical Foundation Museum 182288  
Winair Office 182362  
Lions Club meets every 1st and 3rd Wednesday at the "Den" next to the Airport  
Drug Prevention Foundation meets every Tuesday 5:30pm at the Golden Era Hotel.  
Coastguard NA&A 113

## SABA

**Police Station**  
The Bottom, tel. 4163237  
Emergency 111/112  
**Hospital**  
The Bottom, tel. 4163288/416289  
**Fire Department Airport**  
Flat Point, tel. 4162210  
**SATEL**  
The Bottom, tel. 4163211  
**WINAAR Airport**  
Flat Point, tel. 4162255/2713  
**Taxi Service Airport**  
Flat Point, tel. 160  
**Administration Building**  
The Bottom, tel. 4163511/4163312/416313  
**Tourist Office**  
Windwardside, tel. 4162231  
**Harbour Office**  
Fort Bay, tel. 4163294  
**Saba Marine Park**  
Fort Bay, tel. 4163295  
**Nature & Hike Guide**  
James Johnson  
The Bottom, tel. 4163307  
**Service Club**  
The Bottom Club general meeting every 1st and 3rd Tuesday 8:00 p.m. at Eugenius A. Johnson Center.  
**Coastguard NA&A 113**  
Red Cross  
General meeting every last Monday, 6 p.m., Eugenius A. Johnson Center.

## ANGULLA

**EMERGENCY**  
Police 911  
Fire 911  
Ambulance 911  
Police Station 497 2533  
Hospital 497 2551  
Dental clinic 497 2343  
Radio Angulla 497 2258  
Tourism Department 497 2219  
Weather Reporters 0800 7777777  
**AIRLINES**  
American Eagle 497 3501  
Liat 497 2748  
Liat 497 5000  
Tyden Air 497 2719  
Air Angulla 497 2643  
Trans Angulla 497 3600  
**COURIER SERVICE**  
DHL 497 3400  
Federal Express 497 2719  
DHL 497 2259  
**SERVICE CLUBS**  
Rotary Club of Angulla  
Roya Restaurant 6:00p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Every Thursday.  
Soroptimist International  
Day Care Centre  
4:30 p.m. 2nd Tuesday in each month Tel: 497 3509  
Lions Club  
The Valley Primary School  
Hospital 5:4 Tuesday at 8:00 p.m. Tel: 497 6259  
**National Council of Women Arts and Craft Centre**  
4:30 p.m. 1st Monday of month.  
**Interact Club of Angulla**  
Meets every Friday at 3.15 p.m. at the Abena Lake Lodge-Comprehensive School  
**Alcoholic Anonymous meetings**  
every Sunday at 8:30 a.m. and Monday at 5:00 pm on Shoal Bay picnic area.

## Subscribe to



PHONE 542553

## Dutch top cop to talk about cooperation

PHILIPSBURG—Police here are all set to sign a declaration of intent for cooperation with the police force of Rotterdam Rijnmond that may well end up being very beneficial to both their operations.

Police Chief Commissioner A. Meijboom of Rotterdam Rijnmond is expected on the island today for a three-day visit that will lead to the signing of the declaration Friday. St. Maarten Police Chief Commissioner Derrick Holiday explained that the talks with his counterpart from Holland would focus on implementing the cooperation. "First of all we'll be looking at building a relationship," Holiday said. Parties will also look at the possibilities to combat crime together.

"But our main objective will be to look at the youth problem here, as well as in Holland. We'll also be exchanging information," he said. And, if the relationships have

## Waterman returns after maintenance

ST. EUSTATIUS—The government-owned harbour patrol boat Waterman recently left the island for St. Maarten for a maintenance cycle.

The boat has been very instrumental in ferrying between the harbour and the Charles L. Brown, bringing back several items before the retired AT&T cable ship is sunk to become an artificial reef.

The Waterman is expected to return to St. Eustatius Wednesday, according to Commissioner Roy Hooker.

## Duncan &amp; Brandon

Attorneys at Law

## VACANCY (SABA)

We are seeking applicants to fill the position of:  
**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT** (part-time)

The requirements for the position of Administrative Assistant are:

- Excellent knowledge and comprehension of Word for Windows
- Excellent knowledge and comprehension of the Dutch and English languages;
- Experience in the legal field is an advantage;
- Knowledge of Spanish, Papiamentu and French is an advantage;
- Education level: completed Mavo/Havo.

All applications must be filed by July 30, 2003 to the attention of Mrs. Greta Veldkamp at the main office on St. Maarten by fax or mail (mailing address Carnegielei Street #46, Fax number 54-37468)

Interviews will be held at our branch office in Saba on August 4th & 5th 2003, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

been built and cooperation is underway, the forces may attempt to exchange personnel, similar to an ongoing programme between forces of other Dutch cities and Aruba, Curaçao and Bonaire.

"We chose to cooperate with Rotterdam Rijnmond, also because they had indicated interest in working with us," Holiday said. The first steps towards the cooperation were taken last year when Commissioner Peter de Witte of the Rotterdam Rijnmond force visited and met with police officials. De Witte will also be in the delegation that arrives tomorrow with Chief Commissioner Meijboom.

During their 3-day visit, along with meetings with Holiday, the delegation will meet with the Lt. Governor, the Prosecutor, members of the Detective Cooperative Team RST based here and the Chief of Customs.

Holiday said he hoped the meetings would lead to a mutually beneficial cooperation.

"They are a much bigger force, they have a lot of experience in dealing with crime and they have a lot more equipment than we have available to deal with the crime. They can maybe help improve the way we combat crime. Hopefully we can join hands and help each other," he said.

Holiday said the declaration would be signed on Friday, July 25. Afterwards the areas of cooperation will be worked out. A target date for the cooperation has not been determined yet, but Holiday said he hoped it would be soon after the declaration had been signed.



The St. Eustatius fire department received on Monday a brand new multipurpose fire truck from Holland that had been promised to the department by Fire Chief Wim Goedhart of The Hague a while ago. A spokesman for the department said the truck was very much appreciated and was just in time before the hurricane season really became serious. The truck will be stationed at the Fire Department in Concordia village.

## Heavyweight Dutch Parliament delegation arrives August 27

THE HAGUE—A heavyweight delegation of Dutch Parliamentarians headed by Chairman Frans Weisglas will be arriving in St. Maarten on August 27 for a three-day visit to the three Windward Islands.

The delegation, which consists of the leaders of most factions in the Dutch Parliament, will arrive from Curaçao Wednesday morning, a spokesperson at the Dutch Parliament told The Daily Herald on Tuesday. The delegation will be joined by members of the Antillean Parliament, including Chairman Dudley Lucia.

First on the programme in St. Maarten, still tentative as the details of the visit still have to be worked out, is a meeting with head of the Representation of the Dutch Government in Philipsburg Stockman.

After lunch a meeting has been scheduled with members of the Island Council and the Executive Council, followed by a press conference. At night the delegation will have dinner with members of the Executive and Island Councils as well as the members of the Antillean Parliament.

The delegation will travel to Saba on Thursday morning for a meeting with the

Executive and Island Councils, followed by a reception. They will return to St. Maarten in the evening and leave for St. Eustatius the next morning.

In St. Eustatius the delegation will meet with members of the Executive and Island Councils. They will also visit Fort De Windt, the Medical School and Queen Beatrix Medical Center. The delegation will return to Curaçao Friday night via St. Maarten.

They will be in Aruba on Saturday and Sunday for meetings with Parliament there, as well as with government. A visit to Arikok National Park has been included in the tentative programme.

The delegation will be in Bonaire on Monday for a meeting with government and the members of Parliament.

The programme in Curaçao, spread over the first two days after the delegation arrives on August 23 and the last day, September 2, includes meetings with government and Parliament, and visits to the Coast Guard, the Wishi-Marchena district and the drug rehabilitation center Brasami.

Although the composition of the delegation has not been completely set, it is sure that new Chairman of the Dutch Parliament Weisglas (VVD) will head the group. Also expected to be part are faction leaders of the three largest parties (Maxima Verhagen (CDA), Wouter Bos (PvdA) and Josias van Aartsen (VVD), as well as representatives of D66,

Groen Links, LPF and Christen Unie. SP and SGP won't take part.

Members of Dutch Parliament regularly visit the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba at least once a year to discuss issues of mutual interest with their colleagues from the Antillean and Aruban Parliaments.

## Man caught with cocaine

PHILIPSBURG—Authorities say a 60-year-old man who had purchased a large quantity of cocaine in Curaçao tried to smuggle it to Europe and was caught at Princess Juliana International Airport with 13 cocaine packages taped to his body.

He has been detained and charged as a smuggler, and now has to stand trial for the offence.

Chief Customs Officer George Martis stated yesterday, "We have arrested one body packer with initials P.W.K.G.B., 60 years old, born in the Netherlands, who was travelling on a DCA flight."

According to Martis, the suspect was in transit from Curaçao and would have gone on to Europe had it not been for the vigilance of Customs Officers at the airport.

"He told us where he got the stuff and said it was not intended for local consumption. He will remain in custody until he is tried," Martis said.

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The group of children from St. Kitts posing for the camera with their teacher Daryll Lloyd standing at far left.

## St. Kitts children visit St. Maarten

**BETTY'S ESTATE**—Some 30 children and five adults from Newton Ground Primary School in St. Kitts are currently having a week of activities in St. Maarten.

The group arrived here on Monday, July 14, and will return to St. Kitts on Saturday, July 26. The children and their chaperones are staying at the Methodist Agogic Church Campus in Betty's Estate, teacher and coordinator of the tour Daryll Lloyd told *The Daily Herald* Monday.

Teacher Lloyd said the children were from the graduating class and their week of activities theme is: "We have great minds among us." This theme is printed on the neat, light green T-shirts worn by members of the group.

According to the teacher, it has become a tradition for the Newton Ground Primary School graduating class to come to St. Maarten at the end of the school year. He said this was the fourth consecutive year that children of his school had stayed here.

Among the many activities that have been organized for the group are a hike tomorrow morning, a visit to St. Maarten Park (formerly the Zoo), an island tour, indoor and outdoor games, scripture reading at the Methodist Church and more.

Prior to their arrival in St. Maarten, the children enjoyed a social called "I love my teachers day" at Rex Papillon Resort in St. Kitts and visited the oldest male and female in Newton Ground, teacher Lloyd said.

## Emergency phones for Belvedere, Middle Region, Dutch Quarter

**PHILIPS BURGH**—St. Maarten Telephone Company TelEm has provided an undisclosed number of emergency mobile phones to the Dutch Quarter, Middle Region and Belvedere communities, currently affected by the massive cleanup exercise at one of TelEm's main substations in Belvedere.

The phones are available at the Belvedere Community Center, the Red Cross Center (also in Belvedere) and the Dutch Quarter Community Center.

The phones are being provided to residents in case of emergencies and can be used to contact the police, fire department or emergency services, TelEm's President Director Dennis Richardson said in a release. The 11-day cleanup exercise began last Friday and is expected to continue until next Tuesday. "TelEm and TelCell technicians began the first major

dismantling, cleaning and replacement of telecommunication's equipment which operate numbers (beginning with) 547 and serving the Middle Region, Dutch Quarter and Belvedere areas," said the release.

"While the work is ongoing and there is an interruption in service, there should be some means for members of the public to make an emergency call to contact the police, fire or other emergency service and that is why we are making these phones available to the public, for emergency use only," Richardson said.

He said a number of TelEm vehicles were also in the area and workers had been asked to assist the public whenever and wherever there were emergencies. He noted that work at the Belvedere substation was continuing on schedule and he was pleased that the interruption was minimal.

"Technicians have come up with their own solutions to keep the GSM prepaid and the numbers beginning with) 547 up and running for as long as possible and to cut down on the amount of time customers are left without service," Richardson said.

## VKS officers training ends mid-September

**PHILIPS BURGH**—The final segment of training for nine Voluntary Corps St. Maarten VKS officers in training is nearing comple-

tion and VKS officials are anticipating the start of the campaign to recruit new members by October.

This is based on the planned completion of the VKS training programme for its officers in mid-September.

Bonaire, which nevertheless allowed its minister to be sworn in.

The fact that the parties forming the coalition had all signed a "cooperation agreement" before played a role in the decision to proceed without a governing accord supported by all parties.

Expectations are that agreement on the governing accord can be reached soon, although Finance Minister de Lannooy has already expressed reservations about the changes desired by UPB concerning the collection and division of tax revenues.

Acting VKS Commander Paul Martens stated yesterday that the officers had been given an exercise they must complete to pass the course. The exercise comes as part of their extended education and serves as their final stage of training before taking up active duties.

Once they have passed their training, they will in turn train new recruits.

The VKS is always looking for volunteer officers and Marten said that although it is not yet ready to train new recruits, persons had been requesting applications.

## Cabinet

Continued from page 1.

Plenipotentiary Minister in The Hague were all sworn in.

Kromproe declared last night that he had arranged for the DP-St. Maarten's Minister of Internal and Constitutional Affairs Russell Voges and Justice Starc Secretary Johan "Janchi" Leonard to be sworn in this afternoon at 3:30pm. The two will travel to Curaçao on DCA's noon flight.

In addition, to problems with the governing accord, Gumbs also mentioned logistics as a reason why the DP-St. Maarten's nominees were not present yesterday.

"They seem to think St. Maarten is in Bandabou and we can just hop on a bus."

The governing accord was the main problem, however, and has not been agreed on yet by either the DP-St. Maarten or the UPB of

## Two successful appeals for study financing

**PHILIPS BURGH**—Two students who appealed the rejection of their applications for government funding to pursue tertiary studies in Holland were successful and will be granted study financing.

This brings to 116 the total number of applications approved so far for the 2003-2004 period, 64 fewer than the number granted in 2002. This is not the final number, as the appeals of students who want to study in other countries are still to be examined.

Six of the eight appeals from students desirous of studying in Holland were turned down. Head of the Study Financing Committee Ligia Stella told *The Daily Herald* Tuesday, Stella said the applications of a male and a female student had been approved.

She explained that in one case an error had been made and in the other, the student was a bit young, but had been granted study financing because of good grades, among other things. Provisions are

made in the law to allow students who are too young to be granted study financing, but this is based on a number of factors.

The committee handled appeals for students desirous of going to Holland first and as matter of urgency, as these students will leave St. Maarten for Holland on Thursday, July 31. This week the committee will go through the appeals from students desirous of studying in other countries and a decision is expected within two weeks.

Five or six appeals were made by students studying in countries other than Holland. Stella explained that the committee had to go through the appeals, discuss them, and send recommendations to the Executive Council, which will then examine them and forward them to Lt. Governor Franklyn Richards.

The applications of more than 100 students were turned down this year as government tightened its expenditure due

to financial constraints.

A total of 238 applications were sent in for study financing this year. Of this number 120 were for colleges in the Netherlands, 75 for the United States, 31 for the local University of St. Martin (USM), 10 for countries in the region, including Curaçao and Aruba, and two for Canada. In 2002, 332 applications were made for study financing, 180 of which were approved.



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# Unions continue to support pensioners

**PHILIPSBURG**—The temporary lifting of the ban on government pensioners' sickness fund FZOG guarantee cards by St. Maarten Medical Center (SMMC) of three local unions who pledged to support pensioners who were previously affected by the ban.

Pensioners were unable to use their FZOG cards for medical attention at SMCC for about a month before the

ban was lifted. Windward Islands Teachers' Union (WITLU) President Claire Elshout called the temporary lifting of the ban a "yo yo" move. She said the hospital was likely to refuse the cards again on Monday, August 4, if "they feel like."

Medical center officials have threatened that the ban will be replaced if Finance Minister Ersilia de Lannoo fails to put certain mechanisms in

place by Monday, August 4.

The hospital is demanding that the finance minister provide a Letter of Intent (LOI) to the hospital indicating that a payment plan for the outstanding amount be arranged within 30 days. It also wants a meeting to be arranged for Health Cost Insurance Bureau BVZ, which manages FZOG, and the medical center to come to a "formal arrangement" within 60 days. SMCC also wants clarity on the contracts and responsibilities of BVZ, "otherwise the SMCC will be forced to refuse all BVZ cards permanently," General Director Dr. George Scott threatened Sunday.

**ARUBA**—A group of 32 employees of the Aruban airline Avia Air took management to court to force it to pay the employees their salaries for the past 2½ months. The case comes up in court Wednesday at 3:00pm with Ronald Wix representing the employees as their lawyer.

They deliberated for a long time before they took the decision to go to court and did so because last week their boss E.H. Tromp tightened the screws even more on a few of them.

A spokesperson for the personnel told the press that the first attachment on the company by the Revenue Service had created a domino effect, when another creditor, Volvo

Aeroleasing, repossessed the engines just at the time that a big maintenance was due. This caused the flights to be cancelled and the personnel were sent home on mandatory vacation.

They signed an agreement with the Venezuelan Charter Company Aero Caribe for flights to Punto Fijo. The personnel wanted to discuss the situation with manager Tromp, but were told in a very rude manner that "the personnel had let them down."

The duped group decided to place a lien on the company's bank account, because they hadn't received their salaries.

Speaking on behalf of the Windward Islands Civil Servants' Union (WICSS) and the Netherlands Antilles Police Union NABP as well, Elshout contended that a structural solution had to be put in place to guarantee that BZV-FZOG patients would be able to use their cards indefinitely. "We will continue with whatever action we have to take until a structural solution is in place," said the union president, "because pensioners cannot be put at risk again. They are not to vox."

She said the union would go ahead and request a meeting with the various stakeholders to find a structural solution to the matter.



Triple Kay Band from Dominica to perform in Saba

# Triple Kay from Dominica to play in Saba Saturday

**SABA**—Triple Kay Band from Dominica will be making its first appearance in Saba in a Pre-Carnival bash on Saturday, July 26.

Queen's Gardens Resort in Saba presents the band and the resort's managers Sebastian and Alike Couturier told The Daily Herald recently that inviting the band had been an initiative of their chef Charles, who also hails from Dominica and knows the

young members of the band. Chef Charles said on Tuesday that Triple Kay had started in 1999 under very unusual circumstances. "While taking a bath at a river once, the three founding members Kurt, Kendel and Keenan, all from the same village of Laudat, decided to make a band. The unusual thing about this was that none of those guys owned a music instrument or knew how to

play one."

He said Triple Kay was becoming a household name in its community within a year of practicing and hard work. The Band exploded onto the music scene in 2000 with its first album "Big Ting."

"The band continued thrilling audiences around the island with their very energetic style of performance and playing music for all ages," Charles said.

# SHTA sponsors youths for environmental camp

**PHILIPSBURG**—Through its Dollar-A-Day programme, the St. Maarten Hospitality and Trade Association (SHTA) is sponsoring four youngsters from the island to attend the annual U.S. Virgin Islands Environmental Resource Station's Wider Caribbean Environmental Youth Programme.

Darryl York, Louis Barber, Crystal Chittick and Felicia Pantouphet were chosen to represent St. Maarten at the St. John's camp July 23-30. The group will be accompanied by a chaperone, Marine Park Manager Andy Caballero of the Nature Foundation chose the students.

One of the goals of the programme is to develop students' appreciation of the natural environment and to stimulate interest in continued learning about natural history, ecology and environmental conservation of their home countries and of the Caribbean region.

Field trips in the various ecosystems as well as class and lab demonstrations, presentations and discussions

are a part of the programme set up. Each day lessons will be presented both in the classroom and outdoors during walks, hikes, swims and snorkelling.

The band currently has eight players with band leader/lead guitarist Keenan Cadette and plays all kinds of music, including reggae, calypso, dancehall, soca, bouyon, zouk and kompa.

# Employment Opportunity

Miles Enterprises N.V. / McDonald's Restaurant has vacancies for the following positions.

### Swing Manager:

- Must have had McDonald's Management training.
- At least two (2) years previous experience.
- Good supervisory skills.

### Maintenance:

- Must be in possession of Drivers' License "C" Category.
- Familiarity with and ability to service and repair McDonald's equipment.

### Crew Member:

- Young, energetic male.
- Ability to read and write English.
- Good mathematical skills.

Applicants must be able to work all shifts. Antilleans or persons with valid work permits can apply at McDonald's Restaurant, 78 Frontstreet, Philipsburg 8:00 - 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Please bring one (1) passport picture and documents (passport, ID, permit).



Onyan performs in Statia

# Onyan rocks Gene Complex

**ST. EUSTATIUS**—A crowd of several hundred turned out to Lord Gene Complex at Golden Rock village before the weekend when local band The Rebels and Onyan and his Baygan Band from Antigua rocked the place for hours nonstop.

"It has been six years that I was in Statia and the sup-

port from the crowd makes me feel at home," Onyan said just before he left the island. He said he also loved the island because it was so peaceful and quiet.

Onyan said the music session had been incident-free and there had been no need for police intervention. "Those who were present

enjoyed the session with an eye for law and order."

He also said he would release his new CD live on all radio stations and that he and his band performed recently in New York, Washington D.C., Virginia and Texas in the USA, and on several Caribbean islands.



## No compensation DCA passengers

WILLEMSTAD—Dutch Caribbean Airlines (DCA) does not have to pay financial compensation to the 17 passengers headed for St. Maarten who were recently left behind.

Judge Hoppers referred the matter to a regular procedure case, so parties could further explain their positions and answer the question whether overbooking should result in damages, because an injunction is not the correct place for such fundamental issues.

During the court case DCA promised to put the 17 passengers on the next available flight and did so.

The judge agreed that the airline was in principle responsible for damages resulting from overbooking, because by selling more tickets than there were seats, it was willfully risking not being able to meet its contracted transport obligations.

He did not believe damages could be awarded in this case, however, because it had not been determined what the actual damage was, to decide if the demand of 500 guilders per person was reasonable.

The judge considered clarity in these matters desirable, however, especially because DCA has a monopoly position on the Curaçao-St. Maarten route.



The crew involved in bringing the Charles L. Brown to Statia, with Lt. Governor Eugene Abdul standing third from left (with cap). The ship has now been towed to its final resting place, where nature will convert it into an artificial reef for divers.

## Charles L. Brown towed to final resting place

ST. EUSTATIUS—The retired AT&T cable ship Charles L. Brown was towed from its anchorage in Statia to a location above its final resting place Monday.

The ship, donated to the island of St. Eustatius by its former owner, is to be sunk in Statia waters on Sunday, July 27, if the weather permits it.

It will be used as a dive site and will serve as an attraction for sea life and for visiting and resident divers.

Kees van Essen, a representative of Smit International of the Netherlands, has been on the island since Thursday, July 17. He is charged with overseeing the actual sinking of the vessel. All petroleum products and other possibly hazardous materials are being removed from the ship. There has been some discussion that several large generators that are of possible use to the island have not been removed.

The Committee, which consists of representatives of the three Statia dive shops and St. Eustatius National

Parks Foundation, pointed out that it has neither the manpower nor the heavy equipment needed to remove these generators.

The ship has been anchored in Statia for about four months and so far no one has come forward who has a use for these generators and the means to remove them from the ship. The present

plan, therefore, is that the generators will be sunk along with the ship.

The Committee was appreciative of Smit International's assistance in providing expertise for the sinking without charge to the island and of Statia Terminals' assistance with positioning the ship and preparing it for a safe sinking.

## 'Sausages' invited to visit Curaçao

WILLEMSTAD—Mandy Block and Veronica Piech, the two mascots involved in the Milwaukee incident where baseball player Randall "Chulo" Simon playfully hit one of them, causing a stumble, have been invited to spend a week on his home-island Curaçao.

The Curaçao Tourism Bureau (CTB) invited the two to spend a week on the island, airfare and stay included.

Simon (Pittsburgh Pirates)

jokingly thumped Block's bratwurst outfit with his bat during the field run of the mascots, which caused her to stumble and take Piech with her in the fall. Neither suffered any injuries and both took the incident quite lightly, but the American media went all out in their coverage of the event.

Simon offered his personal apology to both ladies. He was fined and suspended for three games.



Police officers during the protest action

## Police union unhappy about Oduber reaction to protest

ARUBA—"When we go on strike, the prime minister is the first one to be informed. He can be sure of that. One thing is for sure; during a protest action, we would not set other people's properties on fire and neither would we penetrate our parliament in a wild-west manner."

With these words the Aruba police union SPA reacted in a press report on Prime Minister Nel Oduber's statements about the protest action of police officers, held due to the arrest of one of their colleagues. This officer was being investigated due to a supposed wrongful arrest.

The prime minister had declared that no officer had more authority than he or she was given by the law and that if this was not accepted, Aruba would end up in anarchy. He utterly condemned the action.

The SPA indicated that it was not as though the police were constantly holding a protest action every time an officer was arrested. According to the prime minister, this has happened twice since the Status Act came into force.

The SPA explained that the police had not gone on strike, but just held a protest action, and everybody had the right to this.

"If the prime minister is well informed, he would know that since 1986, police officers have been arrested and imprisoned several times and there were no protest actions, but that there were indeed protests when we thought that the correct procedures were not applied. If there were only two arrests since 1986, then you may draw your own conclusions," said the SPA.

The union told the prime minister there was a differ-

ence between a strike and a protest action. "In this case there was no strike, just an encounter where the members were informed of the latest developments in the case. Our members were of the opinion that they should hold a protest action against

the way the case was dealt with."

According to the union, the majority of the officers who were present were actually off duty at that moment. The ones who were on duty complied properly with their responsibilities.

## Young Blood Barber to support charities

ST. KITTS—Dave "Young Blood" Osborne, owner of Young Blood Barber Shop and Beauty Salon on Cayon Street, said in an interview with The Daily Herald that he would very shortly commence a charity programme that he hoped to turn into an annual event.

He and his staff will be providing free haircuts and hair treatment to the children at The Children's Home in St. Johnstone Village and to the elderly at The Infirmary. He said that due to logistics, he had to push back the initial commencement date of Saturday, July 19. He said a new date would be announced in the course of the week.

Dave said they would trim the hair of the boys and wash and plait the hair of the girls and elderly, free of charge. He said he was doing this as his way of showing appreciation to the children and as a way of letting them know that

they could overcome their circumstances and become successful in life.

"It's all about loving people, and I want to show this love to those who find themselves in this unfortunate circumstance. We will cut hair for the kids also, just before they go back to school, so that they look sharp and ready to learn. Apart from learning about schoolwork, it is also important that they learn about caring for themselves, and we plan to do just that," the Jamaican businessman said.

When asked if the haircuts would be restricted in styling, Dave said that what type of haircuts he did would be based on the directives of the relevant authorities.

He said he also hoped to learn from the kids, as he would talk to them about the Children's Home and its importance, and maybe some of them might even learn the art of cutting hair.

## Anguilla at 30th meeting Caribbean Family Planning

ANGUILLA—Following representation at the Annual General Meeting of the Caribbean Family Planning Association (CFPA), Anguilla is planning to work more closely with the association in developing YAM, the youth arm of the Family Planning Association (FPA), here in Anguilla.

The meeting was attended by Anguilla FPA President Bonnie Richardson-Lake and secretary/treasurer Lynette Rogers, and was held in Antigua. The mission of the CFPA is the improvement of the quality of life of Caribbean people through sexual and reproductive health care and through a concern with population issues. Anguilla is an affiliate to the CFPA along with 16 other countries in the Caribbean.

Several important issues were discussed, including the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) strategic plan which focuses on five A's: Adolescents, Advocacy, eliminating unsafe Abortion, Access and AIDS.

It is planned that family planning associations will take their services far beyond the provision of contraception and begin to take a more holistic approach. Groups are also challenged to work with governments and non-govern-

mental organizations to eliminate the stigma against HIV/AIDS.

Both Richardson-Lake and Rogers said the meetings had been extremely informative and thought-provoking and they looked forward to working with the CFPA more closely. CFPA Executive Director Tirbani Jagdeo is tentatively scheduled to visit Anguilla in August to begin work on the YAM project here.

At the meeting Richardson-

Lake was elected to the Board of Directors of the CFPA. She said she was honoured to have the opportunity to influence the development of reproductive health services on a regional level.

As a board member she will be a part of the regional family planning governing body with responsibilities for advocacy, resource mobilization, stewardship, strategic planning and policy development as they relate to reproductive health issues in the Caribbean.

## Minister denies foul play in hospital advice tender

ARUBA—There is no foul play with the tendering of the advice procedure on the hospital, says Minister of Public Health Candelario "Booshi" Wever, in reaction to suggestions by AVP senator Omar Oduber.

At a hastily convened press conference, the minister stressed that no decision had been made as yet whether to renovate the existing hospital or to opt for building a new one. He explained once more that his own preference had no influence on the final decision, although several recommendations pointed towards

an inclination for building a new facility.

The minister further stated that the final decision hinged not only on the financial cost, but that one should also look at the overall picture of the public health provisions.

A committee consisting of representatives of the general health insurance AZV, the Directorate for Public Health and a specialist, aided by officials of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), are in charge of studying all advisory reports and proposing a final advice.

## Douglas tells parents: "Know where kids are"

ST. KITTS—Another call was made for persons in St. Kitts and Nevis to share information with the police when crimes have been committed.

St. Kitts and Nevis Prime Minister Denzil Douglas told a packed Conarec Community Center that information should be shared with the police to ensure that those who were guilty did not escape punishment and that innocent persons did not become victims for a crime they did not commit.

"We need the cooperation

## Venezuela medicine accepted in Aruba

ARUBA—Medications approved by the Venezuelan Inspection will also be accepted on the Aruban market from now on.

Minister of Public Health Booshee Vever announced that this decision would soon be put into effect. Up to now, only medicines approved in the USA and the Netherlands were allowed on the Aruban market.

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) has approved the Venezuelan inspection as being one of the best and most rigorous in the world. Time and again the inspection in Venezuela, upon testing certain medications approved elsewhere, found undesirable side effects. These medications were then barred from approval and distribution on the Venezuelan market.

of all. We need to be our brother's keeper. We need to reflect and say 'suppose it was me, my family, how would I react,'" said Minister Douglas, who is also Minister of National Security, in response to a concern raised.

He had some advice to parents and guardians of children and youths: "We must know where our children are at night. We must know what our children are doing. Children are children. They need to be guided. You must know where they are."

"You must know that there will not be out there until nine o'clock at night, if that late at all. You must guide your children and we must make sure that it is not every difference has to be settled in a fight," Douglas said, adding: "We must make sure that our children are not part of any gangs."

He suggested that parents must also question children and youths. "You must know who their friends are and what they are doing and who they are playing with," he advised.

He said it was the further duty of parents, guardians and as law-abiding citizens to help in the nurturing and development of the nation's children into decent and law abiding citizens.

Also present was Parliamentary Representative Cedric Liburd, who used the opportunity of the meeting to bring residents of the constituency up to date on developments taking place in their respective areas.



Last year's Miss Ecstasy winner Tonya Brooks

## Thirteen islands in Miss Ecstasy pageant

ANGUILLA—Contestants will be arriving on Wednesday and Thursday for the Miss Ecstasy International Queen Pageant that will take place Saturday, July 26, at Landsome Bowl Cultural Centre. Thirteen countries are taking part this year and it is sponsored by SW Productions and the Anguilla Commentators Association.

Contestants will make five appearances during the show. The first appearance is a two-minute introductory speech about themselves and their countries. The fashion segment entitled Future Shock is next, with fashion wear depicting imagined life in 2010.

Contestants will then appear in swim wear, followed by the talent segment, which is judged on originality, creativity and performance and should be less than four minutes in length. The final appearance is evening wear; judges will be looking for design and there will be an interview.

MCs for the show are

Oluwakemi Banks and Iwanda Gumbs. Entertainment will be provided by Gossip and the Boys and the All Ah Wee Young Theatre Players.

Competing countries are Barbados, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Mexico, Puerto Rico, St. Croix, St. Kitts, St. Vincent, Tortola, Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuela and Anguilla.

Vanessa John will represent Anguilla this year. Last year Tonya Brooks of Anguilla was the winner, with Jennillee Glasgow of St. Vincent in second place and Yanique Roach of Tortola third.

## Anguillians send water, supplies to Montserrat

ANGUILLA—More than 1,000 cases of water have been collected in Anguilla during the past week to be sent to Montserrat.

Monaxa, the Association formed by Montserratians

## Increased stay-over tourism in Anguilla

ANGUILLA—Although there was a slight decline in overall visitors to Anguilla for June, the number of tourists or stay-over visitors increased by 12.5 per cent compared to June 2002.

According to a release from the Statistics Department, there were 7,725 visitors to Anguilla in June this year, 3.5 per cent fewer than in June last year. The decline for the first six months of this year was 6.7 per cent, so June was better than average for the year.

Stay-over visitors make a large contribution to the economy than excursionists. There were 3,373 arrivals during June, which is above average for June for the past three years and the highest number for the decade with the exception of June 2000.

For the first half of this year 25,524 tourists visited Anguilla, slightly more than the same period for 2002.

Tourist arrivals through the port of Blowing Point for June were 1,239, an increase of 27 per cent over June 2002, and arrivals through Wallblake Airport were up by six per cent compared to June last year. The airport is the main gateway to Anguilla for most tourists, but St.

Maarten is becoming more popular for arrivals, as visitors have more choice in their flights to St. Maarten. The report from the Statistics Department says the USA has at last shown a slight strengthening as a

source of tourists. The increase in June compared to last year from the US was 19 per cent. There was also an increase in tourists from Europe and the UK of 16 per cent. This is seen as a positive for the tourist industry, as the USA represents 71 per cent of the market share and the UK and Europe represent 11 per cent.

Excursionist arrivals showed a decline of 13 per cent in June 2003 compared to June last year, with 4,352 coming to the island. For the first half of the year there has been a decline of 11.5 per cent in excursionist visitors compared to the same period in 2002.

## Government offers lunch to Culturama contestants

ST. KITTS—The five contestants participating in the annual Miss Culture Queen Pageant next month will be hosted to a luncheon at the post St. Kitts Marriott Royal Beach Resort on Wednesday.

Deputy Prime Minister Sam Condor will host the five Nevisian beauties and reigning Ms. Culture 2002 Tamecia Lawrence on behalf of St. Kitts and Nevis Prime Minister Denzil Douglas.

The five contestants vying for the title of Ms. Culture 2003 are Alison Dore, Sherica Williams, Eloise Herbert, Shanoye Nisbett and Anya Hobson.

Culturama 2003 will be officially launched this coming Thursday followed by the "Cultural Showcase and Junior Kaiso Contest" at the Cultural Village.

The "Senior Kaiso Semifinals" will be held July 26; the "Miss Culture Swim Suit Contest" on July 27; the "Mr. Kool Contest" on July 30; and the opening of the two-day Mini Trade Show and "Mr. and Ms. Talented Youth Contest" on July 31. The "St. Kitts vs Nevis Kaiso Bacchanal" is set for August 1; the "Cultural Street Fair" and "Day of the Legends" will take place on August 2; the "Culturama Horse Races" and the "Ms. Culture Queen Pageant" on August 3; the "Emancipation Jouvant Jam" and Herbert's Beach Affair on August 4. The 13-day event climaxes with the "Cultural Street Parade" and "Last Lap Jump Up" on August 5.

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### NOTICE

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## Caricom official praises St. Kitts-Nevis Minister

ST. KITTS—Caribbean Community Caricom Assistant Secretary General Edward Greene said Minister Jacinth Henry-Martin, Parliamentary Representative for Sandy Point/Fig Tree, had been able to provide "useful advice to Suriname," which is hosting the 8th Caribbean Festival of Arts (Carifesta VIII) August 24-30.

"St. Kitts was considered perceptive in developing what they called "The Caricom Bible for Carifesta. That bible from the experience of St. Kitts indicated the steps that need to be taken to effectively promote and then implement the festival.

"It is really a fascinating document which has tremendously helped Suriname in its current development," said Greene in an exclusive interview with the Communications Unit of the Prime Minister's Office.

He pointed out that the "Caricom Bible for Carifesta" even included planning for a natural disaster "as was the experience when St. Kitts and Nevis hosted Carifesta in 2000 and for one day it was literally closed, but by the next day it was up and running."

"That bible produced by Culture Minister Henry-Martin's office has been of tremendous value and I am sure will continue to be of value to future festivals," said Greene during the interview at the 24th meeting of the Conference of Caricom Heads of Government.

Greene also praised Henry-Martin for agreeing to send Logistics Officer Stanley Franks to Suriname to provide technical assistance at the national level. "He has



Edward Greene

been helping Suriname to devise some of the logistics arrangements for the various events, so that they run smoothly," he said.

He disclosed that Henry-Martin's advice to Caricom that regional Coordinators of Culture should form the basis of the advisory group to Suriname "has been of tremendous assistance. Because of their own importance and value across the Caribbean they have been able to mobilize the support of some of the best groups that will go to Carifesta."

"It's going to be one hell of an extravaganza," said Greene, adding that all 15 Caricom nations would participate in the 8th Caribbean Festival of Arts. He said Mexico, Indonesia, Japan, Cuba, French Guiana and the Dominican Republic were also expected to participate.

St. Kitts and Nevis is the smallest nation to host a Caribbean Festival of Arts. Previous festivals have been hosted by the larger countries like Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados and Guyana.

## First Nevis exporter has 5th anniversary

NEVIS—Octagon Limited in Nevis is the Authorized Distributor of DuPont Corian for the Caribbean region.

Corian solid surfacing, discovered 30 years ago by DuPont, is found in commercial and residential buildings around the world. Under the Special Marketing Agreement, Octagon Ltd. is sanctioned to fabricate, market and distribute the material, as well as train employees in relation to the Corian(r) product.

Octagon Ltd. made news in September 2001 by becoming the first Nevis company to export a manufactured product. Since its first shipment to St. Lucia, business continues to grow throughout the Caribbean.

Located at Pinney's Industrial Site in Charlestown, Octagon Ltd. reached the milestone of its fifth anniversary in Nevis last Friday. According to founder and General Manager Curt Muehlenbruch, the company celebrated the event by inviting its patrons and associates to join in the festivities.

Premier Vance Amory was included among the honoured guests. Contractors, architects, builders, property managers, hoteliers, government officials and others who have supported Octagon Ltd. during their first years in Nevis also attended the first phase of the commemoration.

Next was a customer appreciation session where hundreds of customers were invited. From 5:00pm through the evening the general public was invited to tour the facility and join in the fun. Muehlenbruch declared the celebration a resounding success.

Octagon Ltd. imports Corian material from the United States. It is fabricated, seamed and finished at the manufacturing site in Nevis. The certified technicians then install the solid surfacing in the home or workplace. After meeting the stringent quality control requirements, the product is backed by a 10-year warranty. The American international company of DuPont, founded in 1802, backs the guarantee.

According to Muehlenbruch, the future for Octagon Ltd. holds plans for growth, with imminent expansion in St. Martin, Trinidad-Tobago and Barbados. He says the manufacturing plant will remain in Nevis, where he finds a sufficient employment base.

In addition, the site houses state-of-the-art routers, sanders and finishers. Octagon Ltd. recently took delivery of a CNC (Computer Numeric Control) router, which enables designs and edges to be sent digitally to Octagon Ltd.'s office.

The advanced software of the CNC adds to the manufacturing capability of Octagon Ltd. and allows large hotel and development projects to be manufactured at comparable prices with United States, Canada and Europe.

The upgrade in equipment opens the door for Octagon Ltd. to expand into the hotel and resort market, by providing a turnkey operation. Working in conjunction with T2 Kitchens, Real Kitchens and appliance suppliers in St. Martin, it becomes one-stop operation for upscale commercial and residential customers looking for professional assistance and quality products.

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### NOTICE

On June 1, 2003 Nagico terminated the agency arrangement I had with them. I have told all and sundry that I am no longer an agent of Nagico. Yet Nagico continues to place notices to this effect in the newspapers?

Miranda Charles

# 15 little girls abused, one dead

## - DNA test for serial rape suspect -

JAMAICA—The Montego Bay police are hoping that they will be able to use DNA to determine if a man they have in custody is a paedophile who is suspected of raping about 15 little girls in St James.

At the same time, police in Clarendon yesterday confirmed that a decomposed body found Sunday in bushes near the Salt River main road was that of 12 year-old Janelle Blair, who was last seen boarding a white Toyota Corolla taxi in Old Harbour square on July 14.

Janelle's body was found at about 11:30 am by a resident of the area who called the police. The Constabulary Communication Network (CCN) the, police force's information arm, said the body had multiple stab wounds and a laceration to the heart.

Yesterday, CCN boss, Superintendent Ionie Ramsay, in response to a claim by the dead girl's parents that a cop at the Old Harbour Police Station made a disparaging comment about the girl when they reported her missing last week, said the accusation was being investigated.

"If the police is found to have acted unprofessionally, the matter will be dealt with appropriately," said Ramsay, who told the Observer that Superintendent Miguel Wynter, head of the Office of Professional Responsibility, has been assigned to carry out the probe.

According to the girl's mother, 35 year-old Janet Buchanan, she grew concerned about two hours after her daughter was scheduled to return home from summer school at Old Harbour High.

"I went to the police station and dem tell mi that that is a 24-hour thing and that even 10 year-old a run whiey dem man," Buchanan said, adding "a person must know dem child to report a child missing."

The distraught mother said that after her encounter with the Old Harbour police, her family, supported by neighbours, mounted a protest against the way she was treated and posted a \$150,000-reward for information about Janelle.

"From Janelle went missing last week Monday, I don't get a good night's rest," Buchanan said with a blank stare. "I don't sleep and I can't eat, not even the medication I have I can't even take."

She displayed Janelle's report card, which shows the girl scoring 10 As and four Bs and said those results had earned her a trip to the USA



Janet Buchanan is comforted by her six-year-old daughter, Dejanee Blair yesterday after an autopsy was performed on Buchanan's 12 year-old daughter, Janelle Blair (right). Janelle's partially decomposed body was discovered Sunday night, days after she was reported missing. Police say the young girl was stabbed to death.

to visit relatives for the summer. Her other child, six-year-old Dejanee, tried helplessly to comfort her.

Janelle's father, Desmond, 36, said he regretted moving his family two years ago from Whitehall Avenue in Kingston to what he thought would be a more secure neighbourhood — Old Harbour Glades — a housing scheme just outside Old Harbour. "The house feel empty, and I feel empty and helpless," he said, his voice trailing off.

The trauma being experienced by the dead girl's parents yesterday was similar to that of the little girls in St

James, some of whose parents have refused to allow them to attend identification parades in the case of the suspected serial rapist.

"They say they are not so sure they want their children to go through this," Deputy Superintendent of Police Derrick Knight told the Observer yesterday. "The children start to relive the trauma. At least one mother I spoke to said her child started having nightmares when we contacted her (to identify the alleged rapist)."

Since being taken into police custody on July 1, the suspect has faced several identi-

fication parades, but has not been positively identified by any of three abused girls who have come forward, the Observer learnt yesterday.

"The investigation has proven difficult because of the age of the girls, who are between five and nine years old. Knight said the little girls were utilising the services of the security ministry's Victim Support Unit to deal with the experi-

ence.

The decision to try and use DNA samples in the case was taken at the weekend but up to last night none of the girls had yet been asked to visit the police. Since early this year, cops have been tracking the paedophile whose last two victims were said to be two girls, aged five and eight years old, who were assaulted in the Albion and Glendevon areas

of the parish in June.

Yesterday, Deputy Superintendent Knight described the suspect as mentally unstable and said he was receiving treatment. "We can't allow this person to go back on the street," Knight said, adding that even if the man was charged he may not be able to stand trial.

## Four parks for St Thomas

MORANT BAY, St Thomas—The St Thomas Parish Council is working with Municipal Parks and Markets (MPM) and community groups to construct four community parks by the end of the financial year.

Already, first-phase work has started on the development of a facility at Dumfries in Morant Bay. Others are to be constructed at South Haven and Albion.

The Council's secretary/manager, Clinton Gordon told JIS News that the main objective of the project was to provide a place where children and adults could relax and engage in sporting

and cultural activities.

The Council's contribution to the project is \$1.1 million, which represents 10 per cent of the \$11 million collected yearly in property taxes.

Gordon said the first phase of the park at Dumfries involved the cleaning and fencing of the empty lot to keep out stray animals, after which the Council would again meet with the community to decide on beautification and landscaping works.

"Nothing you do as a Council will be successful unless you do it in tandem with your community," Gordon said, adding that discussions were held with members of

the community before starting the project. He said several blocks of empty lots had been identified in the South Haven and Albion districts, but the Council would first have to meet with the community to decide on a suitable location for these parks. The residents, he said, were "very supportive" of the project and some had already come up with ideas regarding the maintenance and development of the parks. Meanwhile, Gordon added that MPM was now engaged in beautification and maintenance works at the Morant Bay and Bowden roundabouts.

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## Business gets PM's crime response today

TRINIDAD—A 45-minute "frank and open" meeting between Prime Minister Patrick Manning and some of the country's most powerful businessmen has ended with the promise of new decisions today to combat Trinidad and Tobago's escalating crime wave.

Some of the measures proposed at the Whitehall meeting yesterday include an increased police presence, more funding and resources for law enforcement and a concrete, long-term plan to address crime.

Business leaders arrived at Whitehall at 4.45 p.m. ahead of Manning whose car and security escort drove through the gates about 20 minutes later.

They included Trinidad and Tobago Manufacturers' Association president Anthony Hosang, Chamber of Commerce vice president Christian Mouttet, TTMA vice president Anthony Aboud, Downtown Own-

ers and Merchants Association (Doma) president Gregory Aboud and Bankers' Association president Richard Young.

Manning met with the executives who represented 15 business groups for 45 minutes to hear their perspectives on crime in the country. They also spoke to National Security Minister Howard Chin Lee and General Snags during their meeting with Manning.

Speaking with reporters outside Whitehall after the meeting, Hosang confirmed that discussions took place and would continue today from 4 p.m.

Gregory Aboud described the talks as "frank and open", noting that several issues were raised and everyone expressed concerns about violent crime in the country.

While they said they were satisfied with the outcome of yesterday's meeting, the business

leaders said the discussions had to be finalised today, with a "lot more to be done". The business heads said a decision was taken not to comment on the first meeting with Manning.

Sources in the business community yesterday said that at least one of their proposals to Manning included enhancing the police presence throughout the country. They have also suggested that more funding and technical resources are required by the police.

Both sides are said to have expressed feelings on several subjects which could reduce crime in the country but all agreed to continue talks today.

## UK crime 'not a Jamaican issue' says chief inspector

KINGSTON, Jamaica—Leroy Logan, chief inspector and member of the Operation Trident Independent Advisory Group in the United Kingdom, says Jamaicans are neither the perpetrators nor victims of most crimes committed in black communities. And he has urged the Jamaican community to become more proactive in dealing with the negative stereotyping of their countrymen. According to Logan, crime in the black community in the UK was not a Jamaican issue as the majority of the victims and suspects were British-born.

At the same time, the chief inspector called on the Jamaican community for support and for greater co-operation between the various organisations to tackle the country's crime problem.

"There is a need to get our young people and our families educated to understand where they can easily get sucked into the cycle of crime and ghetto glamour which is perpetuated by the media and the music," he said.

Logan was speaking at a recent quarterly community leaders meeting, an initiative of the Jamaican High Commissioner, Maxine Roberts. The meeting was held at the Jamaican High Commission in London.

Crime within the black community was the main topic of discussion at the July meeting. The community leaders in attendance also raised concerns about the negative portrayal of Jamaicans and the linking of the increase in crime to Jamaicans.

But Logan told the meeting that the issues surrounding the problem were not just drugs and firearms, but included deprivation and the high rate of educational exclusion within the black community.

The chief inspector, who is also chairman of the Metropolitan Black Police Association, pointed out that 90 per cent of the black community was situated in the 10 most deprived boroughs of the UK.

He said that in addition to tackling the incidence of crime, Operation Trident was also working to be proactive and develop links with the community in order to reduce crime and the fear of crime. The Metropolitan Black Po-

lice Association, he said, was also involved in several programmes with young people to keep them away from crime.

In addition, he said, the group had started a revival programme during Black History month dubbed, 'Stop the Killing, Start the Healing'. Operation Trident is a response by Metropolitan Police to deal with crime in black communities.

## Suriname's energy company forced to shut down power

PARAMARIBO, Suriname—Citizens in Suriname's capital Paramaribo have been hit in the past four weeks by a series of power blackouts that have resulted in numerous breakdowns in home appliances.

The power outages are a result of the old network of underground electric cables and generators, which were not designed to handle the constantly growing demand for power.

The state electric company EBS is now forced to shut down power, according to a recently introduced rotation system. Every day power is shut down in several areas in Paramaribo for several hours at a time.

EBS managing director Oemar Chiragali said in an interview that large part of the company's supply infrastructure are more than 40 years old and have never been renovated. "The demand for electricity has changed significantly in the

past 40 years, but the network of cables remained the same," Chiragali said.

This, according to Chiragali, has led to overburdening, causing the generators to shut down. The generators EBS currently uses can supply only 50 per cent of the demand. EBS buys the rest of the necessary energy from bauxite mining company Suralco that generates electricity at the Afobakka hydroelectric dam.

At the same time Chiragali said EBS would start to replace the outdated system. He expects the whole of Paramaribo to have a new cable network within two years. EBS also announced recently that it was the process of negotiating with partners to create a new energy company within two years.

According to Chiragali, EBS, the State Oil Company and a number of private companies will have a stake in the new company.

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# Saddam's ruthless sons spread rule of terror

BAGHDAD—Saddam Hussein's two sons, Uday and Qusay, who were killed by U.S. forces on Tuesday, helped to spread the Iraqi dictator's reign of terror and keep his grip on power for nearly 30 years.

Uday and Qusay were killed in a fierce gun battle with U.S. troops at a villa in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul.

Eldest son Uday, 39, had a penchant for fast cars, cowboy boots and murder but fell from favour after beating to death a family servant. He still looked set to inherit his father's mantle until he was shot and badly wounded in an assassination attempt in 1996, raising questions about his authority within the ruling elite.

Even in the family inner circle, he was regarded as a loose cannon, who had a reputation for brutality and killed or wounded several men with his own hands.

After U.S. and British forces ousted his father this year, Uday and his younger brother Qusay vanished, apparently going underground inside Iraq.

Both sons were at the centre of the web of family and clan networks that their father used to control Iraq. During Saddam's brutal rule, Uday wielded power and spread terror far beyond his modest titles as chairman of the Iraqi Olympic Committee and head of the



File photograph shows Saddam Hussein's youngest son, Qusay.

Iraqi Football Association. In almost a cruel joke, he was chairman of the Journalists' Union as well as owning the most influential newspaper, Babel, and running the popular Shebab television channel.

But Uday collected enemies and was fond of high living while Iraq suffered under U.N. economic sanctions after its invasion of neighbouring Kuwait in

1990. He married a teenage daughter of Barzan Ibrahim al-Tikriti, one of Saddam's half-brothers, but sent her home later.

His former father-in-law said in 2000 that Uday was just as "greedy and unfit for power" as two prominent Iraqi defectors. His rivalry with one of those defectors—Saddam son-in-law Lieutenant-General Hussein Hassan Kamel who

was mastermind of a secret weapons procurement programme—led to Kamel's flight to Jordan in August 1995. Kamel and his brother, also married to a Saddam daughter, took flight when Uday shot and wounded another half-brother of the president, Watban Ibrahim al-Hassan.

Uday met the penitent Kamel on the Iraqi border seven months later when he returned from exile. He was said to have slapped Kamel's face and taken him and his brother away in his car while his two sisters and their children continued to Baghdad.

Within three days Kamel, his brother and father had been shot dead. In early 2000, Kamel's mother was murdered in her Baghdad house.

Although never official, Saddam's ruthless younger son Qusay was expected to take over from his father when the time came.

Born in 1966, Qusay kept a lower profile and was considered shier than the flamboyant Uday but after his brother was wounded in 1996, he took command of key parts of the military and Iraq's feared security apparatus. Qusay controlled the elite Republican Guards, the intelligence services and a special force providing security for Saddam, making him the second most powerful man in the country.

Qusay always wore civilian



A file photograph shows Saddam Hussein's eldest son Uday.

suits and respectfully bowed and kissed his father's hand when they appeared in public. He said little in leadership or military meetings, dutifully listening to Saddam's every word and taking notes.

Like his father, diplomats say Qusay was ruthless in dealing with opponents, putting down disturbances in 1998 and sending dissidents to their deaths. Both sons had a privileged upbringing in Baghdad marked by parental tolerance of wayward behaviour, academic sloth

and protection by fleets of bodyguards.

"Uday was loud and vulgar while Qusay was quiet and calculating," the mother of a classmate of the pair was reported as saying in Palestinian author Said Aburish's biography "Saddam Hussein - The Politics of Revenge". They were wanted by British-based and U.S.-funded campaign called INDICT that seeks to bring Iraqi officials to justice for alleged crimes committed during the crisis over Iraq's 1990-91 occupation of Kuwait.

## The hunt is on for Saddam after sons die in gunbatt

BAGHDAD—The search for Saddam Hussein drew fresh impetus on Wednesday after U.S. soldiers killed his two sons Uday and Qusay in a fierce six-hour gunbatt in northern Iraq.

U.S. generals also hope the killings will inspire confidence among ordinary Iraqis, who have been reluctant to cooperate as long as the feared former ruling family remained at large and possibly directing guerrilla-style attacks.

Though celebratory gunfire in Baghdad greeted news of the deaths of Uday and Qusay on Tuesday after a siege at a "safe house" villa in the northern city of Mosul, one task facing the Americans will be to convince the public they are truly gone. Another will be to reassure Iraqis that Saddam can be

caught after evading U.S. led forces since they toppled him from power on April 9.

Lieutenant-General Ricardo Sanchez, commander of U.S. forces in Iraq, said the killing of Uday and Qusay underlined the determination of his forces to rid Iraq of the Saddam era. "It confirms that we will succeed in our hunt for former regime members, and in particular Saddam Hussein, wherever they are and however long it takes," he said in a statement.

At a hastily called news conference in Baghdad after four bodies were flown to the Iraqi capital from the Mosul villa, Sanchez said he had "multiple" sources for the identification of Uday and Qusay.

Pressed on how he would convince hesitant Iraqis, he

said he would address that issue on Wednesday. U.S. forces seem unlikely to relish risking unfavourable comparison with Iraq's former dictator by publishing unsightly photographs.

But Iraqis are a sceptical public after three decades of Saddam's manipulation of the media. With the terror of his rule still fresh, many are reluctant to disown him in public.

And suspicion of American motives in invading their oil-rich country is running high as promises to restore basic services remain unfulfilled.

Sanchez said Tuesday's raid in Mosul followed a tip-off from an Iraqi and he expected to pay out on \$15 million rewards each for Uday, 39, and Qusay, born in 1966. By offering huge



Captain J. Dentiager (L), of the 101st Airborne Division, talks on the phone in front of the house which U.S. troops stormed in the northern city of Mosul, on Tuesday. Troops from the 101st Airborne Division traded fire with gunmen holed up in a house belonging to a cousin of Saddam, who is a key tribal leader in the region.

bounties, U.S. officials made it a priority to hunt down Saddam and his lieutenants.

They say this will undermine shadowy groups that have conducted almost daily

attacks on U.S. forces, killing six soldiers in as many days and 39 in all since U.S. President George W. Bush declared an end to major combat on May 1. But that

assumes the enemy are dying hard Saddam loyalists who have been motivated by the

Continued on page

## Dolphins move to Mexico angers animal activists

CANCUN, Mexico—Environmental activists were up in arms on Tuesday after 28 dolphins were flown from the South Pacific to an aquatic theme park in the Caribbean resort of Cancun in an operation deemed as inhumane.

The animals, destined to entertain tourists at the park, were among 200 wild South Pacific bottlenose dolphins captured for sale in the anarchic Solomon Islands and held there in shallow pens. In the early hours of Tuesday, the dolphins arrived on

a DC-10 jet in Mexico, almost 8,000 miles (13,000 km) away from home after a 10-hour flight, according to airport officials. The animals were inspected by government officials and unloaded into pens in the sea over several hours until dawn.

"This is the ultimate idea of tourism gone amok," said Ben White of the Washington-based Animal Welfare Institute. "These dolphins are out of the ocean for the first time and they're scared out of their minds."

Activists also fear the ani-

mals could infect local dolphins and other sea life off the tropical Yucatan peninsula with diseases. But the government said precautions were taken.

"Everything indicates the dolphins arrived fine. They were given medical checks, the park gave them food. They do not appear to be stressed," Jose Luis Deras of the Mexican government's environmental protection agency told Reuters at the theme park.

The agency has said the decision to allow the dolphins to be brought into Mexico was taken after consulting scientists. Still, activists were worried.

"This is shameful," said Sara Rincon, president of the Cancun Society for Animal Protection. "The animals should be placed in quarantine for 40 days, not in the sea."

According to the Australian Associated Press, the Parque Nizuc bought the dolphins for \$260 each from local fishermen in the Solomon Islands, where ethnic fighting and lawlessness have claimed hundreds of lives over the past five years. Australia had asked Mexico to block the deal, but

Georgita Ruiz, who granted the government permit, said the park had met the conditions necessary to import the dolphins.



Plc. Jessica Lynch, 20, waves as she parades with her brother Greg Lynch, Jr. in her neighborhood homecoming celebration in El Paso, West Virginia, on Tuesday. She is also thanking Sgt. Robin Contreras, who she credits with keeping her going through her rehabilitation.

## Jessica Lynch home to hero's welcome

PALESTINE, West Virginia—Jessica Lynch, the injured Army private whose ordeal in Iraq was hyped into a story of U.S. heroism under fire, returned home on Tuesday to the embrace of loved ones and cheers from flag-waving well-wishers.

"I had no idea so many people knew I was missing," she said in a brief prepared statement that represented her first public remarks since she was captured by Iraqi forces on March 23 near the city of Nassiriya and rescued by U.S. commandos on April 1.

Sitting in a wheelchair before a large American flag, dressed in an Army beret and uniform, Lynch expressed sorrow over the deaths of 11 comrades, including another female soldier, PFC Lori Ann Pietsewa of Tuba City, Arizona, all killed when their unit fell into an ambush.

"She was my best friend," said Lynch. "Lori will always remain in my heart."

Lynch, who has been awarded the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart and the Prisoner of War medals, arrived in this Appalachian community aboard an Army Blackhawk helicopter with her family. She later rode a red Mustang convertible on a five-mile (eight km) trek to her home while hundreds waved flags, donned yellow ribbons and held up posters of the young soldier.

West Virginia Gov. Bob Wise called it "a homecoming for the world." Edith Kidd, a well-wisher from Buffalo, West Virginia, agreed:

"People from all over the country and all over the world are here. It's the second Fourth of July."

Lynch was in a 507th Maintenance Company convoy when her unit was ambushed. A 90-minute firefight ensued. But she became a national hero after media reports quoted unnamed U.S. officials as saying she fought fiercely before being captured.

In the end, Army investigators concluded that Lynch was injured when her Humvee crashed into another vehicle in the convoy after being hit by a rocket-propelled grenade.

The U.S. military also released video taken during what was portrayed as a daring rescue by special forces. Lynch was then treated. Iraqi doctors said later the U.S. operation had been over-dramatized.

Lynch has been quoted as saying she can remember nothing of the ambush or the rescue, and her remarks on Tuesday shed no new light on the episode. "The failure here was that the news media got to thinking the government could be trusted to reflect reality," said Carolyn Marvin, professor at the University of Pennsylvania's Annenberg School for Communication.

"It no longer matters in America whether something is true or false. The population has been conditioned to accept anything: sentimental stories, lies, atomic bomb threats," said John MacArthur, the publisher of Harper's magazine.

## International News Briefs

### Mayor curfews men on 'ladies' night'

MADRID—The mayor of a southern Spanish town has declared Thursdays 'ladies' night' and says he will fine any man found strolling about town in the evening, in an attempt to encourage them to stay at home and do the chores.

A spokeswoman for recently elected Andalusian regional party member, Javier Checa, said on Thursdays from October, the streets would be the preserve of the town's women and a five euro (\$5.67) fine would be slapped on any man found out and about.

The men of Torredonjimo, a town of 14,000 people in the olive-growing province of Jaen in Spain's southernmost region, were not impressed by the attempt to tie them to the kitchen sink. "Who does the mayor think he is to fine me if I go to a bar? I'll go to a bar on Thursday, and if they fine me I'll pay it, but we'll be seeing each other in court," resident Jose Damas told state television.

### Flying underpants cause highway crash

BERLIN—A pair of flying underpants caused a crash on a German highway when they landed on a driver's face and blocked his view, police said on Tuesday.

A police spokesman in the central town of Gotha said one of a group of naked men in a van threw the underwear into a Volkswagen Passat as they passed it on a busy stretch of one of Germany's notoriously speedy autobahns. "The underpants landed on the driver's face, causing him to ram the truck ahead from behind," said the spokesman, adding that he did not know why the men were driving naked. No one was hurt in the crash.

### Man attacked over ducklings

VANCOUVER, British Columbia—A man who tried to protect a group of ducklings from stone-throwing teenagers was nursing his own injuries after the youths turned the attack on him, police said on Tuesday.

The man was visiting a park in a Vancouver suburb when he discovered the youths throwing rocks at the birds in a pond. When he tried to stop them they swarmed him, throwing punches and hitting him with a rock. West Vancouver Police said.



Dolphins perform for tourists at the Nizuc Aquatic Park in the Caribbean resort of Cancun, Mexico, on Tuesday.

## Bush aide takes blame for Iraq uranium uproar

WASHINGTON—U.S. President George W. Bush's number two national security aide took the blame on Tuesday for a controversy over charges Iraq tried to buy African uranium, providing the latest version of how the false accusation came to be in Bush's State of the Union speech.

Stephen Hadley, deputy national security adviser, said he should have deleted the reference from the January speech because the CIA had asked him to remove similar language from an October speech by the president.

He is the second administration official to take responsibility for the mistake in a major presidential speech that is carefully written and closely vetted over a period of weeks.

Hadley's revised version of

how the sentence was included came amid an internal White House inquiry launched by Chief of Staff Andrew Card in an attempt to quell a controversy that has dogged the president for two weeks. The revelation also came on a day that the news was dominated by the deaths of Saddam Hussein's sons Uday and Qusay in a gunbattle with U.S. troops in northern Iraq.

"I should have recalled at the time of the State of the Union speech that there was controversy associated with the uranium issue," Hadley said in a meeting with reporters that ran nearly 90 minutes. "I should have either asked that the 16 words were stricken with that subject be deleted or I should have alerted DCI (Director of Central Intelligence) Ten-

et."

"And had I done so this would have avoided the whole current controversy. It is now clear to me that I failed in that responsibility," Hadley said.

He said he had failed to recall the CIA objections, which were included in two memos and a telephone conversation with Tenet in the days before Bush outlined his case against Iraq in an Oct. 7, 2002 speech in Cincinnati.

Hadley said the CIA memos which had been sent to him were found over the weekend. White House officials had previously said they had not been informed of CIA doubts over the claim.

Tenet last week acknowledged that his agency had cleared the State of the Union speech and should have removed the claim.



## Tourists flee fire at France's Eiffel Tower

PARIS—Fire broke out at the top of the Eiffel Tower in Paris on Tuesday, forcing throngs of tourists to scamper down thousands of steps to safety as fire-fighters doused the flames in a cable room some 300 metres (yards) up.

"It was a fire in electric cables," fire services spokesman Christian Decoloredo told Reuters. "The fire was officially put out at 2025 (1825 GMT)," just over an hour after the alert was raised and

fire-fighters rushed to the scene, he said.

Thousands of tourists were evacuated from the giant, mostly metal edifice built for a world fair and inaugurated on March 31, 1889 to celebrate the centenary of the French Revolution.

"We smelled smoke. The fire was above our level. We thought it was a short circuit. There were a lot of people up there but they all came down calmly," Parisian cleaner

Bamba Adam told a Reuters correspondent on the scene.

Peter Hoogum, one of several Dutch students from Groningen University, said he and his friends were among the last to get to the ground and away from the tower. "First we didn't know what was happening. We could see the smoke as we came up to the top floor in the elevator. Everybody was looking

around and taking pictures of the helicopters," he said.

"They shouted 'no pictures, no phones, go down, go down,'" he said, referring to tower staff. "Two firemen came up the stairs carrying axes and wearing breathing apparatus. Then we saw an elevator going up and it was stuffed with firemen."

They and many others were forced to use the 1,665 steps to get down from the top of a tower which rises 324 metres (yards) above ground in a chic part of downtown Paris. Security service officials said Monday was hurt and that 2,000 to 3,000 people were evacuated.

Spokesman Decoloredo declined to confirm that the blaze was caused by a short circuit but witnesses and others on the scene privately said this was the apparent cause. There are a lot of cables and TV and radio antennas in the tower's upper reaches.

Police maintained a security cordon and helicopters hovered nearby for a while after the blaze was declared quenched.



A group of rescue workers inspect debris near a damaged hotel after a bomb exploded in the Mediterranean tourist resort of Benidorm, on Tuesday.

## Bombs wound 13 at Spanish resorts after ETA warning

ALICANTE, Spain—Bombs tore through two hotels in Spanish seaside resorts on Tuesday, wounding 13 people, including seven foreign visitors, in what appeared to be a new campaign against tourism by Basque separatist group ETA.

The explosions, about 10 minutes apart, wounded four policemen plus a civilian in Benidorm and eight people in Alicante, hospital officials in both cities said.

ETA gave advance warning of the attacks in a call to a Basque newspaper, but the bombs exploded 10 to 20 minutes before the caller said they would, leading Interior Minister Angel Acebes to call them "booby traps". Both resorts, which lie about 40 kms (25 miles) apart on Spain's eastern Mediterranean coast, were packed with Spanish and foreign holidaymakers, though the warning gave police time to evacuate the hotels.

"I thought it was a truck or something crashing into the building," said Oskar Molin, an 18-year-old student from Gothenburg, Sweden, who was at a language school near the Alicante hotel when the bomb exploded.

"I came out and everyone was screaming and there was blood all over the floor," he said.

The blasts caused extensive damage to the two small hotels and appeared to mark the start of another summer

bombing campaign by ETA, which in recent years has targeted tourism in an effort to undermine Spain's most important industry. The government announced this month it was sending 5,000 extra police to patrol tourist resorts over the summer to guard against ETA attacks and other crimes.

ETA is Western Europe's most active guerrilla group and has been branded a terrorist organisation by the United States and European Union. It has killed 841 people since 1968 to press for an independent state in northern Spain and southwestern France.

"This is about trying to introduce what we would call

the annual quota of fear in Spaniards' summer break. Every summer they try the same thing, and they never reach their goals," Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar told a news conference.

Local television in Alicante showed pictures of a man in shorts running with blood streaming down his face and chest while smoke rose from the seafloor hotel.

The Alicante blast seriously wounded a Dutch man who suffered an open fracture at the left temple and was undergoing surgery, hospital sources said. A German man was also in serious condition while two Swedes, two Russians, one Briton and a Spaniard suffered lesser injuries.

## Dutch soldier slightly hurt in Kabul attack

KABUL—An improvised bomb exploded near a Dutch peacekeeping patrol on the outskirts of the Afghan capital a few hours before another bomb was found in a central shopping street frequented by foreigners, peacekeepers said on Tuesday.

A Dutch soldier with the International Security Assistance Force was slightly wounded with a cut to his forehead in the explosion on the southeastern outskirts of Kabul on Monday morning, ISAF spokeswoman Maraj Sarah Wood said.

An ISAF statement said it was a deliberate attack almost identical to one in March that wounded another Dutch peacekeeper and killed his interpreter. The bomb in that attack was hidden at the edge of a road and detonated by remote control.

A U.S. embassy advisory said as many as seven improvised explosive devices had been found in Kabul in the past 36 hours. But Wood said she was aware of only three suspect incidents and police also questioned the U.S. report, which restricted embassy employees to essential travel.



Smoke billows from the upper stage of the Eiffel Tower in Paris, on Tuesday.

## Iraqi delegation embraced at UN; not named government

UNITED NATIONS—U.N. Security Council members on Tuesday embraced a delegation from Iraq's new Governing Council, a step toward international legitimacy, but did not name it as successor to Saddam Hussein's government.

A three-member delegation from the 25-member Governing Council, appointed by the United States nine days ago, made its debut at the United Nations. Its spokesmen, Adnan Pachachi, a former foreign minister before Saddam took power, pledged his country would never return to totalitarianism.

"Our primary goal is to shorten the duration of the interim administration, to pave the way for a new constitution and a popularly-elected government in Iraq," Pachachi said. "The state intelligence services and man-

datory arrests and random executions are done for once and for all."

The United States and Britain, struggling to restore security and revive Iraq's crippled economy, are seeking financial and military support. But countries like France, Russia, Germany and India have said they need a new U.N. mandate first, an issue none of them mentioned on Tuesday.

However, the German and French ambassadors said financial support for reconstruction would only be forthcoming if international agencies had a say in how it would be spent.

German Ambassador Dieter Pleuger and his French counterpart, Jean-Marc de la Sabrie, called for a multilateral fund that would receive financial contributions. They also said an inter-

national monitoring board appointed by the United States and Britain should have more of a say in deciding how Iraq's oil revenue should be spent.

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan and his special envoy in Iraq, Sergio Vieira de Mello, greeted the Governing Council as a first step toward a permanent government but did not endorse it for a U.N. seat.

Most Security Council members echoed their praise. But Syrian Ambassador Mikail Wehbe said the Iraqi council would be judged on steps it takes to maintain "good-neighbourliness."

The Iraqi council has the authority to appoint interim diplomats abroad, approve budgets and propose policies but the U.S.-led coalition in Iraq can veto its decisions.

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**NOW IS THE TIME (The walrus said) TO THINK ABOUT IT!**

## Sao Tome junta sees president's return by the weekend

SAO TOME—The head of the military junta that seized power on Sao Tome and Principe said on Tuesday he expected the president of the tiny West African nation would be allowed to return by the end of the week.

Coup leader Major Fernando Pereira told reporters that an accord would likely be signed "by the end of the week" after the junta met international mediators to present their conditions for the return of President Fradique de Menezes.

"As soon as the accord is signed, the president can return," Pereira said after addressing the nation on national radio from a dilapidated army barracks on the outside of town.

"We were obliged to take action to protect the rights of the people," Pereira said from the barracks' main meeting room full of broken wooden chairs and rusty lamps without light bulbs.

In a rambling question and answer session with reporters also broadcast live, Pereira said coup leaders wanted to combat government corruption, child prostitution and the "spiritual poverty" of Sao Tome's political class. "There are days when I, one of the highest ranking members of the military, can't put three meals on my family's table. What kind of a society is this?" the burly major demanded.



In front of the American Embassy, 18 civilian bodies killed in the vicinity by mortar fire are put on display by local citizens. The bodies were left in front of the embassy as a message that peacekeepers need to be sent to the region.

## Row over ceasefire line keeps Liberia on edge

MONROVIA—A row over where Liberia's ceasefire line should stand dampened hopes on Tuesday of an end to five days of fighting that has cost hundreds of lives in the shattered capital, Monrovia.

Deployment of U.S.-backed West African peacekeepers hangs on whether rebels and President Charles Taylor's forces stop their bloodletting as regional security chiefs and ministers meet in Senegal to work out how to get troops there.

Rebels who said they would hold fire on Tuesday also made clear they had no intention of retreating to lines they held before launching their third assault in two months on the terrified city. But Taylor's government insisted the rebel Liberians United for Reconciliation

and Democracy (LURD) would first have to pull back to their positions when they signed a truce in June.

"They broke the ceasefire. They should fix it," Defence Minister Daniel Chea told Reuters.

Old foes from a civil war that left 200,000 dead in the 1990s have fought for more than three years to oust Taylor, a former warlord accused of spreading chaos in the region and wanted by an international war crimes court in Sierra Leone.

The echo of mortar explosions and throb of heavy machineguns after dark underlined the mood of pessimism in a city where a humanitarian disaster grows worse by the hour for tens of thousands of drifting refugees. "This ceasefire is not guaranteed as long as we do

not have a force on the ground. We have had two ceasefires before and they were both broken," said Patrick Jolo, one of those fleeing the war.

The government has put the death toll so far at more than 600 and while aid workers believe that to be exaggerated, nobody is able to check in the bitterly contested areas around key bridges into the city centre. Residents of the West Point area near the battleground said bodies lay unburied in the streets because nobody dared to venture out.

Monrovia's people are bitter with the world's inaction to prevent the battle and especially with the United States, whose historic links are close to a republic founded by freed American slaves in 1847.

## Canadian to be buried in Iran, son opposed

TEHRAN—The body of Canadian journalist Zahra Kazemi, who died in custody in Iran on Wednesday, a government source said, despite demands by Ottawa and her son for her body to be returned to Canada.

The Iranian official, who declined to give his name, told Reuters that Kazemi's body had already been transferred from Tehran to her birthplace in Shiraz, southern Iran. He said the decision was in accordance with the wishes of Kazemi's mother.

Kazemi's son, who lives in Canada, told reporters in Montreal that he received no confirmation about his mother's imminent burial and said his 75-year-old grandmother told him on Tuesday she was "forced" by Iranian authorities to authorize the burial in Iran.

"If they can bury my mother, we can also exhume her," Stephan Hachemi said. "I am not ready to give up. The Canadian government can ask for a response. They haven't got any," he said, adding he had no plans to go to Iran to bring his mother's remains back.

The news of Kazemi's burial was likely to further anger Canadian officials who demanded on Monday that Iran identify and prosecute those responsible for her death, following a government inquiry that said she died of a brain haemorrhage caused by a severe blow to the head. In Ottawa the Department of

Foreign Affairs said it was checking the report, but had no comment.

Kazemi, 54, a Montreal-based photographer of Iranian descent died on July 10, more than two weeks after she was arrested for taking photographs outside a Tehran prison. Her death has sparked a major political row in Iran, with reformist allies of President Mohammad Khatami arguing that it highlighted the operation of shadowy security services outside government control.

While stating that Kazemi received a fatal blow to the head in custody, an initial government inquiry into her death failed to pinpoint how she was injured and said further investigation was needed to identify who may have caused her death. Iran insists Kazemi was an Iranian citizen and that Canada had no right to interfere in the case.

In a letter published by the ISNA news agency late on Tuesday, Kazemi's mother, Ezet Kazemi, asked Iranian authorities to arrange for her daughter's burial in Shiraz.

"Fate brought her back to the country which, although she was away from, she loved," she wrote in the letter dated July 22. "I am announcing my official agreement for burying my daughter in the town where she was born."

Canadian embassy officials in Tehran said on Monday that Kazemi's mother had signed a written statement ceding to her grandson's wishes for Kazemi's body to be buried in Canada.



Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe, watched by a police woman and a bodyguard, arrives for the opening of Parliament, on Tuesday.

## Mugabe will woo Third World to end Zimbabwe's isolation

HARARE—President Robert Mugabe said on Tuesday Zimbabwe would woo friends in the Third World to break out of international isolation and warned his domestic political opponents against seeking to destabilise his government.

In an address marking the official opening of parliament, Mugabe said the crisis-torn country faced a global environment as "dangerous as it is unjust—an apparent reference to the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq."

The West shuns Mugabe, accusing him of human rights

abuses and criticising his seizure of white-owned farms for distribution to landless blacks. But African states led by South Africa have resisted calls to isolate him further.

"We have to recover lost alliances, resuscitate those that are dormant, and reconstruct those we may have neglected because it has become clear that the evolving global environment is unkind to the small, dangerous to the weak and the isolated, and tempting to the greedy," Mugabe said.

He said his government would cultivate links with

Third World nations and that his election this month as a deputy chairman of the African Union was a sign of confidence in his rule. "Such an election was meant to send an eloquent message to those who have spitefully sought our isolation and ruin," said Mugabe, 79, who has ruled Zimbabwe since independence from Britain 23 years ago.

The West has slapped a variety of sanctions on Mugabe and his officials but South Africa says it prefers to use "quiet diplomacy" to deal with its northern neighbour.

# UK scientist inquiry could topple senior figures

LONDON—If he thought Northern Ireland and the Pinochet saga were tough, Britain's Lord Hutton might be thinking again as he starts his latest challenge.

The 72-year-old judge has begun an inquiry into the apparent suicide of a government scientist caught up

in a row over the case for war in Iraq, which has become the biggest political crisis of Prime Minister Tony Blair's six-year rule.

Hutton's probe should establish the winners and losers in a vicious battle between the government and another pillar of the British

establishment, the BBC broadcaster. It could bring down some senior figures on both sides.

"The stakes could barely be higher, it's riveting stuff," said a London-based foreign diplomat closely tracking the saga.

Despite its importance, few

expect the Hutton inquiry into the death of Dr David Kelly to resolve the wider issue of whether Blair misled Britons by hyping the case for war on Saddam Hussein. It was that grave context which lent Kelly's initially small role an off-the-record chat with a journalist—such importance and put him in a political hot seat he tragically could not cope with.

Kelly's conversation with reporter Andrew Gilligan became the BBC's main source for a story that Blair officials had "sexed up" a dossier on Saddam's banned weapons by saying they could be deployed within 45 minutes. That BBC story, from May, has been dominating the Blair-Iraq debate ever since and led to the outing of Kelly as the source. It is there Hutton will have to start.

Hutton is used to tricky politics after senior legal posts in Northern Ireland and sitting on the panel of lords which ruled on the case of Chile's ex-dictator Augusto Pinochet, who was arrested in Britain in 1998. Hutton has pledged his inquiry will be done "with expedition" and mostly in public.

Many politicians would like it finished before the annual conference of the ruling Labour Party in September. But on the evidence of similar inquiries in the past, that seems unlikely.

By dragging out the furor, the investigation will only heighten many Britons' disgust with the whole "Westminster Village" of politicians and media whom many feel share responsibility for driving a good man to a lonely end.

"The general public takes the view that the politicians and the BBC are arguing about comparatively trivial matters of interest only to those in a square mile around Whitehall, while a man who was not political was harassed and driven to suicide," Oxford politics professor Vernon Bogdanor told Reuters. "This affair is poisoning the whole political system."

Many people will be sweating over the summer while Hutton seeks to fill in the dotted lines between the BBC report and the discovery of Kelly with his wrist slit last Friday.

On the government side, Defence Minister Geoff



Britain's Secretary of State for Defense Geoff Hoon leaves the Ministry of Defense in London, on Tuesday. On the government side, Hoon is under pressure because his ministry coaxed Kelly to come forward and take questions in public, and confirmed his name to the media.

Hoon is under pressure because his ministry coaxed Kelly to come forward and take questions in public, and confirmed his name to the media.

Senior Blair aide Alastair Campbell, viewed by many as the second most powerful man in Britain, is also under fire as the one who, according to Gilligan, did the "sex-up" of the dossier. His resignation has been rumoured for weeks.

On the broadcaster's side, the BBC top boss is under scrutiny for its backing of Gilligan despite accusations the reporter exaggerated information he received from Kelly and made out he was a more important source than he in fact was.

Many urged Hutton to cast his net wide. "The Kelly tragedy is a pimple on the hide of a bigger elephant," columnist Hugo Young wrote. "Why did Tony Blair go to...?"

## THE HUNT IS ON

Continued from page 19

prospect of restoring him or his heir apparent, Qusay, to their palaces.

Other groups, however, have also claimed responsibility for some attacks, distancing themselves from Saddam's secular Iraqi nationalism and embracing the Islamist, anti-American slogans popular among the likes of Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda network.

Uday and Qusay were not noticeably close in life, but they went down fighting side-by-side in the violent tradition of their clan. Barricading themselves into the villa, they resisted some 200 U.S. soldiers backed by helicopters and firing rockets and machine guns for several

sweltering hours.

Two other bodies removed from the villa were a grandson of Saddam and an aide of Uday, a U.S. official said.

Their deaths will be a boost to Bush. He has been under pressure over mounting casualties among his soldiers and their failure to find any of the chemical, biological or nuclear weapons that he used to justify war despite widespread international opposition.

Bush hailed the deaths of "brutal regime leaders"

Uday and Qusay as "further assurance to the Iraqi people that the regime is gone and won't be back." White House spokesman Scott McClellan told reporters.



A Filipino boy seeks cover from giant waves behind a stone display, by Manila bay on Tuesday. Typhoon Imbudo, the eighth typhoon to hit the country this year, with strong winds of 190km/h (118 mph) and gusts of 230 km/h (144 mph), slammed into the northern Philippines on Tuesday.

## Typhoon heads for Hong Kong, disease fears grow in Asia

MANILA—Hong Kong went on alert on Tuesday for what could be the biggest storm in years to lash the city after Typhoon Imbudo swept across the northern Philippines then set a course for southern China.

In India and Bangladesh, where millions have been affected by weeks of monsoon rains, officials were trying to stem outbreaks of disease as monsoon floods recede.

At least five people were killed on Tuesday when powerful Typhoon Imbudo battered the Philippines, disrupting power at the main international airport and ripping off roofs.

In northern Vietnam, Tropical Storm Koni lashed the region after engulfing southern China's Hainan island on Monday night. Koni dumped heavy rains on Hainan and disrupted flights but caused little damage and no deaths or injuries had been reported, the official Xinhua news agency said.

Imbudo, which means

"funnel" in the Filipino language, is the strongest typhoon to hit the Philippines since 1998. The storm, hundreds of kilometres across, hit rice and corn-growing areas on the main island of Luzon and dumped heavy rains on the central Visayas and southern Mindanao regions.

The Department of Agriculture said it had no immediate reports on the extent of damage to crops from the rains and wind, which reached speeds of more than 200 kilometres (120 miles) per hour before weakening a little once it made landfall.

The storm has since moved into the South China Sea and is moving northwest at about 25 kilometres (15 miles) per hour. The Hong Kong Observatory said it hoisted tropical cyclone warning signal number one on Tuesday evening and possibly could raise it to number eight by late on Wednesday when Imbudo is expected to close in on Hong Kong. A signal eight warning usually causes schools, gov-

ernment offices and markets to close.

Authorities in Vietnam's northern coastal provinces urged fishermen to return to port as Koni, which means "swan" in Korean, moved in and by late Tuesday had been downgraded further to a tropical low-pressure system.

In Japan, Kyodo news agency said the death toll from weekend flooding and mudslides in the south rose to 15 on Tuesday with seven missing.

In northern India, the Red Cross on Tuesday dispatched food and medicine to remote areas where hundreds are suffering from malaria and water-borne diseases after the worst floods in 50 years. Flood waters have receded in the northeastern state of Assam but authorities have declared an epidemic alert because about a million displaced people are still living in temporary shelters with no access to clean drinking water.

## Deaths of Saddam's sons take US markets by storm

NEW YORK—News from Iraq that Saddam Hussein's two sons were killed by U.S. forces took markets by storm on Tuesday, adding critical fuel to a stock market trying to get jazzed by solid earnings from cellphone chip maker Texas Instruments.

The death of Uday and Qusay Hussein in a four-hour battle in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul fueled optimism that with the obvious links to Saddam's regime gone, so too might be many of the post-war difficulties U.S. forces have faced.

Whether that optimism ends up being justified remains to be seen, but the dollar gained on the news as well, mostly no-bid versus the Swiss franc, a safe-haven currency popular among investors at times of geopolitical unrest.

The death of the Hussein brothers resonated less in the U.S. Treasury market, where traders were more keen on taking a breather from the relentless selling of the last month and letting technical forces help move prices solidly higher. But the news from

Iraq did weigh in part on oil prices, which fell by 5 percent, because it raised hopes that looting and sabotage at Iraq's oil facilities could ease.

"People were just concerned that [Iraq] is costing us quite a bit in money and in lives—a lot more than people were expecting after it was officially declared over," said Owen Fitzpatrick, head of the U.S. equity group at Deutsche Bank Private Banking. "This type of news we had today doesn't put an end to it, but it lessens the perception that this thing will drag on."

Traders also said the market's drop over the past week was luring bargain-hunters, and the Standard & Poor's 500 index ability to hold above the technically significant 975 mark gave investors further confidence.

"It's a combination of things: a technical bounce, decent earnings in the tech space and decent earnings in financial sector," said David Memmott, head of listed block trading at Morgan Stanley. "You've had four out of the past five days down. And we're just seeing a

bit of a snapback."

After trading in the red for most of the morning, the Dow Jones industrial average rose 61.76 points, or 0.68 percent, to 9,158.45, while the broader Standard & Poor's 500 Index gained 9.31 points, or 0.95 percent, to 988.11. The Nasdaq Composite Index, home to many technology issues, rose 24.69 points, or 1.47 percent, to 1,706.10.

Aside from the news in Iraq, Wall Street focused on earnings at the height of corporate America's quarterly reporting season. After bidding up stocks for the past four months, investors are scrutinizing companies' results and outlooks for signs an economic upswing is firmly under way.

Texas Instruments rose after it reported quarterly sales and earnings that topped its lowered outlook from a month ago, helped by a recovery in wireless sales. Shares of TI, the No. 1 maker of semiconductor for mobile phones, jumped 8 percent, or \$1.37, to \$19.25 and topped the New York Stock Exchange's most active list.

Semiconductor equipment makers were among the big gainers of the day after Lehman raised its rating on a number of the sector's stocks including Applied Materials Inc., Novellus Systems Inc. and Lam Research Corp.

Mortgage lender Countrywide Financial Corp. also surged after it said its quarterly earnings doubled as low interest rates prompted Americans to refinance their homes in record numbers, and it said full-year earnings would top Wall Street estimates.



An Iraqi holds a mobile telephone, connected to a Kuwaiti network, near a portrait of toppled leader Saddam Hussein, in the capital Baghdad on Tuesday.

## Baghdad calling! Mobile phones spring to life

BAGHDAD—Mobile phone roaming services were mysteriously available in Baghdad on Tuesday, bringing cellular service—banned under Saddam Hussein—to ordinary people in the Iraqi capital for the first time.

Yet officially, a tender for three mobile phone licenses the U.S.-led administration plans to offer across Iraq has yet to take place. A U.S. military spokesman could not immediately say why the lines turned on or what that meant for the tender.

Callers with foreign-registered GSM phones were able to make and receive calls and send text messages to countries as far away as the United States and South Africa. Few Iraqis have suitable phones for now. Foreigners working in Baghdad had widely relied on pricey

satellite telephones to stay in touch.

"MTC-Vodafone wishes you a pleasant stay in Kuwait," a text message said to roamers in Baghdad sent.

Other cellphone users reported they had service on a Bahraini network, Batelec, which said it planned to offer services and was testing its network. "Batelec will start offering mobile services to the public in Iraq later this week or early next week," Regional Operations Manager Rashid al-Snan told Reuters.

He said Batelec, partly owned by the Bahraini government, had asked the U.S.-led administration in Iraq for a licence, and would invest over \$50 million to build a new GSM network.

The roaming services switched on and off all day.

An MTC-Vodafone service representative reached via a mobile phone using his own company's network from Baghdad said he was not aware of roaming services being offered there yet. "That's great. But they didn't tell us," he said.

The U.S.-led authority that has been running Iraq since Saddam was overthrown in April invited potential bidders for the mobile licences to express their interest last week. The mobile licences are one of the most potentially lucrative contracts to be offered in Iraq, where mobile phones were banned to all but senior officials connected to a special network.

War-time bombing disrupted the existing land line network and only about half of Baghdad's ordinary telephones work.

## Oil dives 5% while speculators cash in

NEW YORK—Oil prices slid 5 percent on Tuesday as speculators took profits ahead of a government report that will show whether U.S. crude stocks have narrowed an 11 percent deficit against last year.

Word from U.S. officials that Saddam Hussein's sons Uday and Qusay were killed in a battle with U.S. troops also weighed on prices as it raised hopes that looting and sabotage at Iraq's oil facilities could ease.

Crude oil futures in New York dropped \$1.59 to \$30.19 per barrel, nearly \$2 below five-week highs hit at the start of the week. Benchmark Brent crude in London settled \$1.20 lower at \$27.49.

Prices have fallen as speculative hedge funds liquidated long positions to profit from a rally that had pushed up prices more than 6 percent since the start of July, and nearly 25 percent since early May. Big money funds had built up the largest long position on record for gasoline and a 9-month high on crude oil. U.S. authorities reported last week.

Further fund liquidation could propel oil prices lower in the short term, but low

U.S. stocks of crude would limit the losses, oil analysts at Bareilly's Capital Research said.

U.S. inventory data to be released today are expected to show a further decline in crude stocks, drained by production and shipping disruptions during last week's Hurricane Claudette. U.S. crude stocks have been drained by a slower-than-expected recovery in postwar Iraqi crude exports as looting and sabotage damage the country's oil infrastructure.

"The news that Saddam's sons may have been killed gave traders a feeling that things would be a little bit more settled in that nation," said Marshall Steeves, energy market analyst at Refco Energy Group in New York. Iraqi production has stalled at 800,000 barrels per day (bpd), just a quarter of pre-war levels. State Oil Marketing Organization SOMO said Tuesday it will introduce term contract for sales of Basra crude from its southern fields, starting on Aug. 1.

Iraqi exports since the war have been restricted to two modest spot tenders, the second of which will be completed at the end of July.



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**2000 Chevy Pick Up S10:** blue, \$8,400. 1995 Geo Tracker 2 door soft top, \$3,800. Suzuki Vitara, 4wd, 4 door, \$4,900. For more info call 54232126 or text: 5443134, ask for Ruth or Essycent27.

**1996 Chevy Blazer:** Fully loaded. 23,000 miles, one owner and very nice. \$9,800. Call: 5443404 / 5662041/5690088.

**2001 Nissan Frontier Supercharged crew cab pickup.** Fully customized, 20 wheels ( + new set of extra tires) upgraded sound system and accessories. Reduced price: \$22,500. Call 5662827.

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## YARD SALE

**Furniture Yard Sale: July 26 & 27.** 28' Living room, dining room, bedroom sets etc. From 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Mahoe Tree Drive # 4, Cole Bay. Right turn after Tackling Shift Station.

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**1996 Mitsubishi L300 Cargo Van:** excellent running condition, \$4,000 o.b.o. Call 5443134, ask for Ruth or Essycent27.

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**Pointe Priouette:** House for sale by owner. 3 bed, 4 bath, wing dining, 3rd pool deck for boat, etc. \$475,000. Call: 5228463.

**Monte Vista:** 3 bed, 2 1/2 bath house 6 extra bedrooms, private pool, 24 hrs security guards etc. Its almost heaven with breathtaking views of Great Bay cruiseships. By owner. 5275505/2988570467. This dream house, you need to see this one!

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**Saba: Cottage for sale:** 3 bed, 1 bath, dining, kitchen, living room, large porch, fully furnished, stone wall around property. Excellent condition. \$130,000. Phone: 04162417 Email: uhsallsett@yahoo.com

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**Seasonal rental:** Elegantly furnished 1 bed apartment in Simpson Bay, 2 minutes from airport, all utilities, A/C, cable tv, linens, kitchen appliances, beautiful porch on lagoon, attractive rates. Call: 5471778 or 5484905. e-mail: sxmsept@yahoo.com

**Capeux:** Large studio, fully furnished, 1 bed 2 bed apartment, private entrance, common pool with lagoon view, quiet and secure area, walking distance to medical school, \$850 pm + deposit. Utilities included. 5699265.

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**Experienced Food & Beverage Manager** wanted for nights and weekends. Please call Karin: 5511412.

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## Brazilian governors demand more funds for reform

BRASILIA, Brazil—A group of governors from Brazil's states demanded on Tuesday in a meeting with President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva that they receive greater revenues as part of an overhaul of the cumbersome tax system.

State governors came out of all-day meetings with Lula and other government officials sticking to demands for a share of two federal taxes and financial compensation for lost income from tax breaks for exporters.

The demands from governors came as Lula advanced on another reform front—changing the debt-ridden public pension system—by reaching agreement in Con-

gress for a vote on Thursday in a special commission on the proposed bill. Lula's reform drive, including the tax, pension and bankruptcy systems, is being closely watched by investors who want to see the government reduce its high costs and ultimately boost growth in Latin America's largest economy.

The powerful governors of Brazil's 27 states want to take advantage of the tax reform to boost revenues for their wealthy public finances. Their political leverage in Congress gives them a powerful bargaining tool.

"If the reform is not good, if the main demands by the states are not met, or if there

are losses for the states, its better that things don't change," said Gov. Marconi Perillo of Goias state after meeting of Lula.

State governors are asking for a share of the federal government's CPMF tax on financial transactions. They are currently lobbying for an 0.08 percent cut for states and a 0.02 percent cut for municipalities from the federal government's 0.38 percent levy on such transactions.

The states currently receive no revenues from the CPMF, a tax levied on everything from personal checks to cash withdrawals. Finance Minister Antonio Palocci has already said such a concession would be difficult for the government.

Governors also want 25 percent of the income from the CIDE federal tax on fuel, as well as compensation for previously granted tax breaks for exporters.

Presidential spokesman Andre Singer said after the meeting that another round of talks with Lula would take place in coming days. "The government will evaluate the governors' proposals," Singer said.

The reforms have raised tensions among Brazil's civil servants, many of whom have staged periodic strikes this month to protest the potential loss of their pension benefits. The government agreed to some concessions last week but the main elements, such as leaving a tax on the pensions of retired workers and raising the minimum retirement age, remain in the reform proposal.

Hundreds of civil servants invaded Congress on Tuesday in protest, shouting "stop this reform or we will stop Brazil."

The government's talks with the governors came as a reform to the nation's bankruptcy system got its first reading in Congress. Under the proposal set to go to the lower house, companies would have a limit of six months to execute a recovery plan if in financial trouble. If a resolution was not found during that time, the company could seek



A Colombian listens at a news conference in front of a banner painted with an ad against Coca Cola in Bogota, on Tuesday. Using expressions like "killer cola" and "murder incorporated", Colombian workers called yesterday for a global protest against the world's largest soft-drink maker for an alleged reign of terror at locally-owned Coca Cola bottling plants.

bankruptcy protection. As expected, a pro-market proposal to set a limit on the amount of money workers could be paid in compensation as part of bankruptcy payments was thrown out on grounds it could damage a

company's recovery. Some analysts argue such a limit is necessary to prevent companies from siphoning off funds to bogus employees in an attempt to keep money from creditors.

## Amazon posts smaller loss, raises outlook

SEATTLE—Amazon.com Inc., the Internet's largest retailer, on Tuesday said higher revenue and cost cutting helped it narrow its quarterly loss and raise its outlook for the year.

Shares of the Seattle-based Web merchant rose more than 6 percent after it reported a net loss of \$43 million, or 11 cents per share, in its second quarter, compared with a net loss of \$94 million, or 25 cents, a year earlier.

Consumers bought 42 percent more items from Amazon's Web store, drawn

by its free shipping offers and lower prices, helping to drive revenue 36.5 percent higher, Chief Financial Officer Tom Szkutak said.

More than 1.4 million copies of "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix" were sold, which also helped draw more customers to Amazon's Web site, Szkutak said. The company declined to detail any plans to start offering songs through its Website, although Amazon has already expressed interest and industry analysts expect such a move in the coming months.

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## Businessmen ask Putin to defend post-Soviet gains

MOSCOW—Russia's business magnates, in a new appeal to President Vladimir Putin published on Tuesday, urged him to safeguard post-Soviet economic gains amid a tough legal probe into oil giant YUKOS.

The appeal came as YUKOS Chief Executive Mikhail Khodorkovsky said his company was strong enough to pull through the legal action that began with the arrest of a major YUKOS shareholder and personal ally.

Khodorkovsky, Russia's richest man and a backer of Putin's liberal opponents, is widely assumed to be the chief target of the legal action, which many say was inspired by Kremlin hawks ahead of parliamentary and presidential elections.

A Moscow court is to rule today whether to release the YUKOS shareholder, Platon Lebedev, in detention since early July on charges relating to a privatisation deal tied up in the 1990s in the post-Soviet carve-up of state assets.

The legal tussle has raised questions about whether the 1990s selloffs, which turned a handful of businessmen into billionaire "oligarchs", would be subject to intrusive review.

The appeal, also signed by human rights activists, was the second issued to the Kremlin leader and called for a "social pact" to consolidate a decade of change. But, like the first letter, it made no direct reference to the YUKOS row.

"In (the pact), the state would assume responsibility for entrenching the results of change in the country, including defence of democratic institutions and the process of privatisation," the letter said.

"In turn, the business community will take on social and ethical responsibilities," it said, including a commitment to uphold transparency, root out corruption and pay taxes.

A leader of the Union of Right-Wing Forces, a pro-business party backed by Khodorkovsky, said its deputies would push for a three-year deadline on challenges to privatisation deals, rather than the current 10-year statute of limitations. "We will push an amendment for a three-year limit on lawsuits on privatisation deals," said Irina Khakamad, adding the party believed investor trust would only return to Russia if post-Soviet property re-divisions were protected by law.

## NFL, IBM team up in marketing, video pact

NEW YORK—The NFL is teaming up with computer maker IBM to convert up to 80 years of pro football films into digital form for players, coaches and fans, the new partners said on Tuesday.

In a joint statement, the National Football League and International Business Machines Corp. said the video transfer project was part of a three-year corporate sponsorship and technology services pact.

As part of the agreement, IBM was named for the first time as the NFL's official information technology partner, joining other powerhouse brands such as Pepsi and Coors that have rights to use NFL and Super Bowl logos in their own marketing. No financial terms were disclosed. But the deals appear to depend on mutually beneficial ad barter and service swaps.

In return, the IBM brand will feature prominently at NFL media events, including NFL.com and NFL Sunday Ticket, the sports league's subscription service on DirecTV, the largest U.S. satellite television service.

"Just on the face of it, it's a massive job," said Lou Latham, a business video analyst with Gartner Inc. who was briefed by the league and the company on their plans.

The NFL archive contains 100 million feet of film that dates back 75 to 80 years, the video production expert said. Latham said that the video archiving project could cost tens of millions of dollars if paid for in the open market.

The NFL and IBM will provide NFL Films, the archivists of professional football footage; the league's 34 team franchises; and television broadcasters with controlled access to a massive real-time playback system that holds the vault of old footage.

IBM will provide a range of its computer hardware and technical services and consulting to the NFL for the project. Previously, IBM has acted as a technology supplier but never formed any formal partnership with the league.

# Global warming?

If you lie awake worrying that global warming will turn Cleveland into a coastal city, here are a few nuggets that may act like sedatives for you. If you take them to heart, that is. And if you give up your regular doses of propaganda from the Chicken Littles of this era.

If you think I am being too harsh on the Greens, please consider the nuggets: Our top scientists tell us we may have some global warming. But some NASA measurements say we do not. And our top scientists say that even if we do have global warming we have no proof

that human activity contributes to it. We have no proof that human activity can lessen it.

A lot of Greens see things in simple terms: 1. We have global warming. 2. We burn fossil fuels. 3. Therefore, we cause global warming.

Problem: Farmers grow grapes in Scotland and England between 1000 and 1200. Grapes in Scotland! Now that was global warming.

A bunch of scientists have been studying the warm and cool periods the earth has gone through. They do this by drilling into glaciers, by sticking coral under microscopes. They open stalagmites to see what got deposited and at what rates when they were formed centuries ago. They dig up sediment that was laid down centuries back. They examine tree rings. They look at junk that was left behind by people who lived then. And they read the newspapers the garbage was wrapped in. Just kidding.

Researchers at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics recently published what they concluded from all these studies.

In purely scientific terms, they said "Hey, sometimes the earth gets warmer. Sometimes the earth gets colder. Some of us think this is influenced by what the sun gets up to. If fossil fuel burning is causing us to warm up this time, there is no conclusive evidence this is so."

Now would you please compare these nuggets to the tripe that the Greens turn out. By tripe I mean the half-baked pseudo-science stuff they churn out that tells us we will all be French fried by 2050.

The Greens vilified Bush for refusing to sign the 1997 Kyoto Protocol. That document would cost us billions, probably hundreds of billions. Because it would cause us to dramatically alter our emissions. Because the emissions are causing global warming. Global warming that may not even be truly occurring. Global warming that has taken place in centuries past when nobody was emitting much beyond a few burps.

I applaud Bush for having the guts to stand up to such silly thinking. And to recognize the superior thinking of a bunch of scientists at Harvard-Smithsonian.

Next time somebody tells you your backyard barbecue is hastening the day when we will snorkle off the coast of Akron, ask him if he has sipped any Scottish whiskeys lately. Tell him you recommend the Chateau Glasgow of 1050 A.D.

And remind him that a lot of the Greens take their

marching orders on this issue from one Lester Brown. He regularly presents his "State of the World" reports. Which tell us we are doomed. We were doomed 25 years ago. We are still doomed.

I recommend to Lester that he buy an occasin's time share in Cincinnati. He

should heat it by burning back copies of his "State of the World". But, of course, he won't need to burn anything in the heat he predicts will overwhelm us.

He should still burn the copies.

From Tom...as in Morgan.

The Rotary Club of St. Maarten would like to extend a most sincere thank you to the following persons and companies for their assistance with the **Health & Wellness Fair**.

All you helped to make it a success and we are very appreciative! We were able to attend to 900 people. Thank you for "Lending a Hand"!

The University of St. Martin  
Doctors & Nurses from NY  
Medical Institutions  
Dr. David Maron & Marcia Chapin  
Dr. Atchley & the AUC Medical Students  
Liburd Transport  
The Interact Club of St. Maarten Academy  
Sector Health Care  
The Aids Foundation  
The Positive Foundation  
The Diabetes Foundation  
The Management & Staff of:

Burger King  
Divi Little Bay Resort  
Belair Beach Hotel  
Carl & Sons Bakery  
Prime Distributors  
Dominos Pizza

**THANKS**

The organizing committee on behalf of Father Morrisson and Father Janssen, would like to send out a special **Thank You** to all the young people of the island who attended and participated in the **Youth Mass** on Friday evening, July 18th, 2003.

#### We thank our participating sponsors:

Windward Islands Bank N.V., Tendal Real Estate N.V., Victor's N.V., Sangs Supermarket, Mr. Bernard Javois, Mrs. Alma Arnell, International Liquors N.V. and Mrs. Marie Martina Richardson, for their contribution in making the gathering a success.

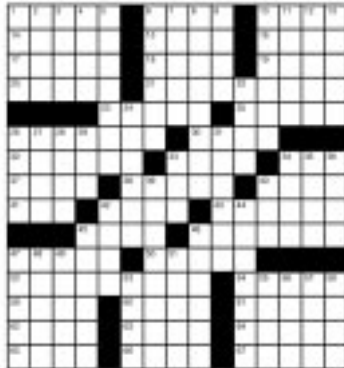
A special THANK YOU to all those persons helping at the Mass and also at the "after gathering". Thank you to the band "Body and Soul", the Catholic Youth Group, the dancers and to Mrs. Joan Mayers.

Thank you also to Mr. Lloyd Richardson of PJD2 and the crew from the Laser 101 program Loud 'n Lovin' it, for helping us promote this gathering via their radio program and the daily newspapers The Daily Herald and Today.

THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF THIS ISLAND  
CAME TOGETHER AND Poured OUT  
THEIR LOVE FOR JESUS!

#### ACROSS

- Tolerant
- Actor Julia
- Culture
- medium
- Seagrass
- Arm bone
- Designate
- Program
- Went off
- Polio's partner
- Free for all
- Daily argument
- Income from properties
- Angering to stop
- Preparing to stop
- Easy goal
- Sloppy suits
- Jolly
- Collar
- Confederate
- Overture
- First taste
- Automatic
- advance is a tournament
- Goats up
- Articulate a cause
- Run off
- Locks leader
- Use of wisdom?
- Gene yacking
- Long-forgotten
- Coke and Pepsi
- Stones
- Swims cap
- Clay's
- go bright
- Summit
- Philosopher
- Kidnapped
- Art
- carry a book
- Shirley's friend



#### DOWN

- Colore heavily
- Preside panel
- Spoken
- Beardly
- catcher
- Bad mark
- Judgment
- On guard
- Discovered
- from punper's title
- Conscience
- Dresses
- Mosley along
- Comet's shock
- Henhouse
- Guarantee
- Wing guards
- Well-shaped
- lower
- Book
- With what motive?
- Type of title
- "Oh ... a jelly good."
- Serious subject
- Put stater
- Seagrass
- Dignified
- boating
- 4 of states
- Scar singer
- Program
- Select unsuitable
- Accol
- California city
- Spoke snake
- Evidence
- stately
- Harden
- Top room
- Bakery
- product
- Skunk's defense
- Wolf tales
- Environ
- Environ

#### Tuesday's Puzzle Solvers

A	N	H	E	M	C	D	R	I	F
S	E	N	M	A	R	I	L	L	A
S	E	T	M	I	S	D	O	M	E
I	S	R	A	E	L	A	I	N	A
T	A	P	E	R	P	A	C	E	N
T	R	A	P	E	R	P	A	C	E
M	R	C	H	A	S	E	L	O	N
I	R	A	N	E	M	A	C	H	O
S	E	P	I	N	A	C	H	O	N
C	H	E	R	I	C	H	O	N	A
A	C	H	E	R	I	C	H	O	N
L	A	U	R	A	C	H	O	N	A
C	H	E	R	I	C	H	O	N	A

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# Our system

For the past weeks there has been much talk about Anthony Goddett becoming Prime Minister of the Netherlands Antilles.

Honestly speaking I support him to be the Prime Minister based on the fact that we have tried all others and we got nowhere and I personally felt that Anthony would have at

least looked out for the small man and the poor people like himself and maybe help to solve the many social problems that our country has.

However, the forces that he has seen to it that he cannot take the position as Prime Minister at this time. Our system some how has become the laughing stock of the world

to large extent. On one hand you are telling Goddett that he cannot become Prime Minister because he has not passed the screening process but yet he is allowed to remain as a member of the highest body in the country, which is the Parliament of the Netherlands Antilles, and also to become a member of the Island Council of Curaçao, which is also the highest body on that island.

I am rather confused because being a member of Parliament he is directly the boss of the Prime Minister, he cannot be a member of Parliament which is very confusing.

If we are going to have screening it should be done then for all entities. We should screen Island Council Members, Senators, Commissioners, Lt. Governors and every-

one that will be elected or appointed.

From press reports this whole screening process is not even legal as it was done by ministerial decree and according to sources a ministerial decree, is only for a certain period of time. Why didn't the holy deceitful PAR party come with a proposal to the floor of parliament to make this a law? The PAR party has landed us where we are today in this mess. Honestly speaking it would be still good to have this whole screening matter challenged in a court of law to really see what the judge thinks about it. The people of Curaçao voted in 2002 for Goddett's party and gave them 5 seats making this party the largest party and at the time the same PAR people tried everything possible to

keep Goddett out.

In 2003 the people of Curaçao showed the PAR party that they were sick of them and they gave Goddett's party 8 seats showing that he is the man that they would like to see run the island of Curaçao and also run the country called the Netherlands Antilles.

It is only hoped that within short there will be some clarity to the Goddett legal battle so that he can really take on the responsibility that the people of Curaçao voted for him to carry out. Frankly speaking I think that he is sincere in his talking on how he would like to bring about the

necessary changes. Mind you I do not agree with everything that he has said or says. I think he sees things practically and that kind of thinking is what we need now in the Netherlands Antilles.

I think that it is time for us to see what he can really do to help take this country out of its problems. His party's decision to have Mr. Ben Komproh hold the position as Prime Minister temporarily is a wise move and they must be congratulated for that.

**Dave Levenstone, Saba**

## What about the masses?

The "Claude Wathey Political Awareness Foundation" has organized a series of lectures starting July 24 in order to provide much needed information to the general public of Saint Martin on the subject of the Ultra Peripheral Territory Status.

This event will be held at the Super Club at the Great Bay Beach Hotel for a fee of \$20. Who some would agree that the price for the lecture is reasonable, considering it could have been much higher, I foresee a problem.

Who are the ones that will attend this lecture? I can say for sure that the unemployed will not attend, I can say for sure that the pensioner will not attend, frankly most of the general public for whom this event has been organized will not attend.

Two things are against them, first of all the location and second the fee. Would it

not have been better if the foundation had sought some sponsors which would help to minimize the fee and a location where the general public would have felt more comfortable? Maybe our sporting facilities or even some of the community centers? And of course free of charge?

After all this Ultra Peripheral issue is a serious one and affects the lives of every individual on this island. At the same time what happened to the informational sessions concerning separate status? Was this not supposed to be a joint venture between all political parties? Back to the issue of the lecture. Charging a fee will definitely prohibit the masses from attending. Remember it is about informing the general public.

**George Pantophlet**  
Island Council Member

We regret to announce the death of



**Left to mourn are:**

- His soulmate:** Cheryl Levenstone
- Father:** Clem Labega & family
- Son:** Nessen Lake
- Daughter:** Catherine Elizabeth "Betty" Lake & fam (Holland)
- Sisters:** Celestina "Santa" Morrison Lake & fam
- Claudette Labega & fam
- Jacqueline Labega & fam
- Noreen Labega & fam
- Yvonne Connor & fam
- (Anguilla)
- Stepisters:** Stella Lake & fam
- Brothers:** James "Jimmy" Lake (Holland)
- Miguel "Supriano" Lake & fam
- Austin Lake & fam (Holland)
- Claudio Labega
- Erno Labega & fam
- Christalia "Miss Mac" Lake & fam
- Rosie Lake & fam (Curaçao)
- Pearl Forde-Labega & fam
- Jacintha Bryan-Labega & fam
- Helen Libier & fam
- Charles "Sonny Boy" Lake & fam
- Vincent Labega & fam
- Donald Abdul Hammid & fam

His best friends "Henry the fifth" Johnson, Danny and "Fredo".

Nieces, nephews, cousins and friends too numerous to mention.  
Funeral will be on Friday, July 26, 2003 at the Roman Catholic Church on Front Street. Viewing will be at 2:00 pm, followed by the service at 3:00 pm.  
Then to the Cal-de-Sac Cemetery for burial.



*It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of our wife, mother, grandmother, sister and daughter*

**Violet Amelia Peterson-Steward**

Born: February 18th, 1951.  
Died: July 20th, 2003.

**She leaves to mourn:**

- Husband:** Todd M. Peterson
- Son:** Aldrin A. Peterson & fam.
- Daughter:** Raquel M. Martina-Peterson & fam.
- Grandchildren:** Rodney, Vanessa, Jalon, Michelele, Chelsea, Adriana, Rachandy, Tishauna & Anderlique
- Mother:** Virginia Steward-La Rosa (Cur.)
- Brothers:** Joffrey Boekhoudt & fam. (Cur.)  
Bernard Steward & fam. (Cur.)  
Godfried Steward & fam. (Aruba)  
Harold Steward & fam. (Neth.)  
Alex Steward & fam. (Cur.)
- Sisters:** Maria Steward & fam. (Cur.)  
Ramona Steward & fam. (Neth.)  
Mildred Raven-Steward & fam. (Cur.)  
Clara Steward & fam. (Neth.)  
Yvonne Steward & fam. (Neth.)

**Special close Cousins:**

- Wanda Rosario-Steward
- Maria Vandelden-Lake
- Maria Harkelji-La Rosa

Aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends too numerous to mention.

The thanksgiving service will be held on Saturday July 26th, 2003, at the St. Martin of Tours Roman Catholic Church.

Viewing will be from 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Service will be at 3:00 p.m.

Following the service, she will be laid to rest at the Philipsburg Catholic Cemetery.



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**Thank You**

*The family of the late*  
**John Joseph GUMBS**  
*a.k.a. Callie York or Yorkie*  
would like to thank all those who sympathized with them in their time of grief and sorrow.

Special thanks to Dr. Bouwman, Nurse Bergie, Management, Staff and Clients of the St. Martin's Home and The Emerald Funeral Home.



## George, Juanes lead Latin Grammy nominees

MIAMI—Producer-composer Sergio George, who wrote the hit "Mi Primer Millon" for the group Bacilos, led the Latin Grammy nominations Tuesday with six, while Columbia singer-songwriter Juanes netted five.

George was nominated for record of the year, song of

the year and other honors for the Bacilos' hit song, as well as for album of the year for producing the group's "Caraluna".

George said he was told of the nominations on his way to St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York for a service to remember "Queen of Salsa" Celia Cruz, who died last

week and was buried Tuesday. "It was almost as if Celia left me a present," George, 42, said in a telephone interview.

Bacilos, an eclectic Miami-based rock group, received three nominations—best pop album by a duo or group with vocal record of the year and album of the year. "I still can't believe it. We're still kind of hallucinating," said Puerto Rican percussionist Jose Javier Freire, who teams with Colombian singer-guitarist Jorge Villamizar and Brazilian bassist Andre Lopes to form Bacilos.

Villamizar earned three songwriting nominations, including one for co-writing "Mi Primer Millon (My First Million)," with George. The song is a story about their success.

"The song is like a wish list," Freire said. "Everything in the song has happened to us."

Juanes, already a four-time Latin Grammy winner, earned nominations for record and song of the year for "Es Por Ti," album of the year and best rock solo album for "Un Dia Normal," and best rock song for "Mala Gente." Combined with last year's awards, "Un Dia Nor-

mal" has brought Juanes eight Latin Grammy nominations.

"This album has been so positive for me and brought me so many good things," Juanes said. "Awards are very important, but it's also important to make music from the heart."

Other multiple nominees include producer-songwriter Gustavo Santaolalla, who had five, and newcomer Natalia Lafourcade, who had four. Lafourcade is a leading contender for best new artist. The category also included Spaniard David Bisbal, nominated for two awards.

Organizers said a tribute to Cruz will be held at the Sept. 3 awards ceremony at the American Airlines Arena in Miami. The ceremony will be broadcast live by CBS television.

The awards have been presented in Los Angeles since they began. The 2000 inaugural ceremony wasn't held in Miami because of an ordi-



Singer David Bisbal (L) reacts to his nomination with Jose Jose during the Latin Grammy nomination ceremony at the Mandarin Oriental hotel in Miami, Florida on Tuesday.

nance, no longer in effect, that barred the county from doing business with those who have dealings with Cuba. Cuban acts may have performed at the show.

The 2001 ceremony was

moved from Miami to Los Angeles after Cuban exile groups threatened to protest the event because Cuban performers were set to perform. The show, slated for Sept. 11, was never held.

## Guest drops trousers at Queen Elizabeth's party

LONDON—Britain's Queen Elizabeth got an unexpected view of one of her subjects on Tuesday when a guest at one of her regular Garden Parties dropped his trousers and scampered off among the tea-drinking crowd.

"He was a young man, an invited guest. He was about 10 yards (metres) from the Queen when he suddenly took off his trousers—nothing more—and sort of sprinted away from her as it were," said another guest, who asked not to be named.

"He was caught by one of the Yeomen of the Guard," she said, noting that the incident was in

the Queen's line of sight.

A Metropolitan Police spokesman confirmed that a 17-year-old guest at the party, one of three the Queen hosts each year, was speaking to police about the incident but had not been arrested. "It was inappropriate behaviour, nothing more," he said, stressing that the Queen's security had not been compromised.

The incident comes just weeks after self-styled comedy terrorist Aaron Barschak—dressed to resemble Osama bin Laden—gatecrashed Prince William's 21st birthday party at Windsor Castle.



A horse-drawn carriage carrying the coffin of salsa star Celia Cruz arrives at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York for funeral services, on Tuesday.

## Latin Grammys to feature a tribute to Celia Cruz

MIAMI—She won her second Latin Grammy award last year and now Cuban-born "Queen of Salsa" Celia Cruz will be honored posthumously at this year's Latin Grammy ceremony in September.

Organizers announcing the nominees for the Sept. 3 event in Miami said there would be a tribute to the singer, who died last week at her home in New Jersey aged 77 after leaving a glittering mark

on the Latin music scene. "We want to honor Celia and her legacy," Gabriel Abaroa, president of the Latin Recording Academy, told a news conference.

Cruz, who was being buried in New York on Tuesday, won her second Latin Grammy for her 2002 album "La Negra Tiene Tumbao" ("The Black Lady has Swing").

The fourth annual awards, previously staged

in Los Angeles, are being held for the first time in Miami. Although the Florida city with its large population of Hispanics prides itself as a center of Latin music, organizers were concerned in the past about opposition by some Cuban exiles in the city to an event where performers from the communist-ruled island could appear.

**BVN (Dutch/Flemish) TV**  
**Channel 46 St. Maarten Cable TV**

Local times	Programme
Wednesday, July 23	
10:00am	NOS Journaal
10:05am	Tik tak
10:10am	Sesamstraat
10:25am	Gemma glitter gezonheidsdag
10:50am	Ffikie slim
10:55am	Eurokids
11:00am	Kokteel
11:10am	Het klokhuis
11:25am	Curieuzeneuze
11:30am	Piet Piraat
11:35am	Natuuravontuur
12:00pm+	NOS Journaal
12:15pm+	Twee vandaag
12:40pm+	Lingo
1:05pm+	VRT Journaal
1:50pm+	Muziek clip
2:00pm+	Studio NL
2:30pm+	NOS Journaal
2:50pm+	Weerbericht
2:55pm+	Tien voor taal
3:40pm+	Novellen
4:10pm+	Beeldenstrop
4:15pm+	Kaap de Goede Hoop
4:40pm+	Nova
5:05pm+	Tour de France journaal

# Radio talk-show host names Kobe's accuser

LOS ANGELES—The 19-year-old woman who accused Los Angeles Lakers star Kobe Bryant of rape was named on Tuesday by a nationally syndicated talk-show host and on the Internet, pushing her into the spotlight despite pleas for privacy from her family.

Rape counselors and mental health experts were outraged by the exposure of the young Colorado woman, saying that a victim of sexual assault would be further traumatized by public scrutiny. "That's like being raped again," if her accusations against Bryant are true, said Dr. Patricia Saunders, director of Graham Windham Manhattan Medical Center in New York City. "It's an intrusion. It's an utter violation of her right to privacy. It's a sadistic thing to do."

News organizations, which typically have policies against naming sexual assault victims, have not identified the woman. But her name, address, telephone number and possibly her picture have surfaced on the Internet.

Meanwhile Tom Leykis, host of a radio talk-show based in Los Angeles and aimed mostly at young men, began using her name on the air and told Reuters that he has no plans to stop.

"We're told that rape is violence, not sex, and if that's true there's no reason she should feel shame or embarrassment," Leykis said, adding that he felt it unfair to name Bryant but not his accuser.

The talk-show host, who is heard on 60 stations across the country, also said he did not believe the woman's claims. He said he believes the woman was seeking attention and money and that Bryant could be the "real victim" in the case.

Saunders said Leykis' reasoning about rape and disclosure was a "distortion" because rape victims were often stigmatized by society.

"Rape is a person using domination in sex to express aggression, if not outright sadism," she said. "Rape uses sex to debase a woman and to assert male dominance. (Leykis) has no right to take it upon himself to make that kind of decision. This guy violated what I think is an ethical law."

Few details have been made public about the woman's accusations against Bryant, who is charged with class 3 sexual assault, the equivalent of rape under Colorado law.

The 24-year-old superstar has denied attacking the woman, a concierge at the four-star Colorado resort where authorities say the attack took place. Eagle County authorities have refused to discuss evidence in the case and convinced a judge to seal the court file, which details the woman's allegations and the version of events that Bryant gave to police.

A spokeswoman and victim's advocate for the Eagle County District Attorney's Office said victims of sexual attacks are told the road ahead of them will be difficult and are offered counseling.

"But you don't know until you go through it," Krista Flannigan said. Bryant's lawyers could not be reached for comment.

Meanwhile, the Denver Post, citing interviews with a friend of the woman, said she had suffered physical injuries that were still visible three weeks later. "She's been hurt, there's no question about that," Luke Bray told the Post. The paper said he would not describe the injuries.



Actress Angelina Jolie, star of the new action film "Lara Croft Tomb Raider The Cradle of Life" poses at the film's premiere in Hollywood with her co-stars Gerard Butler (L) and Djimon Hounsou. The film stars Jolie as Lara Croft as she searches for the infamous site known as "the cradle of life." The film opens July 25 in the United States.

**Channel 15 (local)**  
**St. Maarten Cable TV**

Local time	Programme
Wednesday, July 23	
8:00am	Replay AVS News
10:00am	GIS Press Briefing
6:00pm	Westwood Park
7:00pm	GIS Bulletin
7:30pm	AVS News
8:00pm	Speaking of Everything
8:30pm	Prime time with Beverly Hymen
9:00pm	Aruba Week in Review
10:00pm	St. Maarten Lottery
10:05pm	Caribscope Travel
10:35pm	AVS News



Godfather of Soul James Brown has announced his separation from his third wife, Tomi Rae.

# James Brown marks third separation with Goofy ad

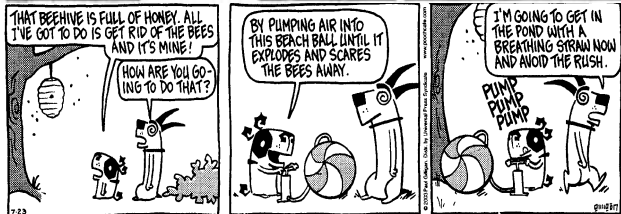
LOS ANGELES—Godfather of Soul James Brown has announced his separation from his third wife in an advertisement featuring a family photo with the Disney character Goofy.

Brown, 70, placed the full-page ad in the weekly issue of the Hollywood trade paper Variety, accompanied by a snapshot of himself, wife Tomi Rae and their two-year-old son James Joseph Brown II posing happily with Goofy at a Disney theme park.

James and Tomi Rae, who is in her 30s, said that "due to their demanding tour schedule, they have decided to go their separate ways. There are no hard feelings, just a mutual show business decision made by both parties. With love and affection we both reached this deci-

sion." Brown and his wife are currently on tour together in Europe and representatives could not be reached for comment. But a colleague of Brown's told Variety that the Goofy photo was chosen to emphasize the couple's happy times rather than the hard times of a breakup.

The singer of hits like "Sex Machine" and "I Feel Good" has been married twice before and has five children from previous relationships.



## HOROSCOPE

By Linda C. Black

**Today's Birthday** (July 23). You're fascinated, and fascinating, this year. You can provide stability, but a free spirit wants more. You'll be most successful if you're not too stuck in your ways.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

**Aries** (March 21-April 19) - Today is a 7 - You'll soon find it much easier to express your heartfelt emotions. You may not have to do it with words, but think your actions through. Don't want to give the wrong impression.

**Taurus** (April 20-May 20) - Today is a 7 - You're about to feel a compelling desire to rearrange all your furniture. Shampoo all the rugs while you're at it. You'll feel so refreshed when it's done.

**Gemini** (May 21-June 21) - Today is a 7 - The next few weeks will be interesting, you can definitely count on that. Do a little more research before you commit to acquiring a profitable skill.

**Cancer** (June 22-July 22) - Today is a 6 - If you're feeling a little exhausted, take it easy for a while. It won't hurt you to move more slowly. You have lots of options to ponder.

**Leo** (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is a 7 - You may feel a little confused as you take on more authority. It's natural, and you'll do well in a new role. Relax and get used to it.

**Virgo** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 7 - You're entering a pensive phase, with big decisions to be made. You'll live with these choices for a long time, so there's no need to rush.

**Libra** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - Today is a 6 - Your popularity is on the rise, and it should be a lot of fun. Schedule a celebration before this weekend, because you may have obligations then.

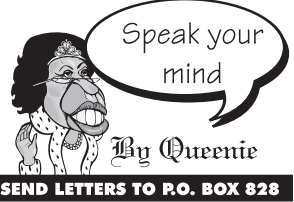
**Scorpio** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is an 8 - For you, the coming phase is all about increasing your authority. You'll do that, in part, by getting proficient at taking orders. But the money should be good.

**Sagittarius** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is a 7 - This coming phase should be lots of fun. The emphasis is on school and travel. If you have anything you want published, the odds are now more in your favor. This only lasts till mid-August, so don't procrastinate!

**Capricorn** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 7 - You're going into a four-week phase of studying economics. Stocks, bonds, credit cards and insurance could all get your scrutiny. Do it now, and be well rewarded.

**Aquarius** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is a 6 - You have lots of friends, but you're actually pretty independent. For the next few weeks you'll get to learn how to rely on others to achieve your goals. Think about what you can delegate.

**Pisces** (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is a 7 - Keep studying, and you'll figure out what you've been doing the hard way. Don't worry about extra effort you've spent; just learn not to waste any more.



**Notices**

**Operation District Cleanup, July 26-27**  
Residents of the Cole Bay basin and surrounding areas are asked to drop their small and large debris at the following central waste collection points during the weekend of July 26-27: Entrance of Mahogany Tree Drive, Old Car Wash on Fahrenheit Street, Dr. Tjon Sie Fat Road behind the drugstore, Willow Tree Road and Well Road, Gum Tree Road and Well Road, across from the Grove Residence in Pelican, behind Sister Regina School, entrance to Beacon Hill, the road opposite the Cay Bay Cemetery and at the garbage bin on Aaron Jacobs Drive. For further information call Public Works at 542-4289.

**Law Clinic Closed Until August**  
The Law Clinic is well be closed from now until Friday, August 15. Sessions for the second half of the year will commence on Saturday, August 16. The Law Clinic is held at the Government Administration Building in Philipsburg every Saturday, 9:00am to 12:30pm.

**Transportation For Senior Citizens, Shut-Ins**  
Helping Hands Foundation offers transportation service for senior citizens and shut-ins for shopping, trip to St. Maarten Medical Center, laboratory, therapist, doctor's visit, social welfare office, Post Office, bank, paying of bills and others. Registrations are \$27 for members and \$35. Memberships per year for Mondays: NAF, 90 or US\$50. For more information, call tel. 544-5866, 556-1076 or 552-9234.

**Society Orientation Course**  
St. Maarten Community Learning Institution Foundation SCOLIM is accepting applications for persons interested in following the Society Orientation Course, which starts on Monday, September 1. For more information and registration forms, call tel. 544-3888.

**Stars Baseball Club Meeting**  
The board of Stars Baseball Club informs all members and prospective members that there will be a club meeting at Raoul Ildridge Sports Complex in Cay Hill, Wednesday, July 23, 7:00pm.

**Guyanese Meeting**  
All Guyanese residing in St. Maarten/St. Martin are invited to a meeting concerning the formation of the St. Maarten Guyanese Foundation, at the WIFOL Building next to Island Finance on the Pondifil, Saturday, July 26, 7:00pm.

**De Evangelische Broed Gemeente/Moravian Church St. Maarten maakt hierbij bekend dat de Zondagse kerkdienst om steeds plaatsvindt op Betty's Estate (Methodist Church gebouw), tijd: 9:30am.**

**Starlight Educational Center Registration**  
The office of Starlight Educational Center, Archimedes Street #6 off Union Road in Cole Bay, will be open for registration and payments Monday-Wednesday, July 28-30, 9:00am to 2:00pm. For other information, call tel. 544-3573 or visit the office during these hours.

**Three Nights Of Services**  
Christ Triumphant Church invites the general public to three nights of Holy Ghost refreshing services with Apostle Dr. Allan Isaac of World In Bible Institute at Celebration Place, Bush Road, Philipsburg, Sunday, July 27, 10:00am and 6:30pm; Monday-Tuesday, July 28-29, 7:45pm.

**St. Maarten Day Boxing Championships**  
Approximately 20 boxers from 23 countries will compete in the St. Maarten Day inter-island boxing championships organised by the St. Maarten Amateur Boxing Association at L.B. Scott Sports Auditorium November 7-11. Amateur boxers have until Friday, August 1, to sign up. For more information contact your local gym or Bobby Otley at 566-9000.

**Cay Hill Junior Soccer Team**  
There is an opportunity for 30 juniors ages 10-16, male and female, to be part of the first junior soccer team to represent the Cay Hill District. For an application and more information, call tel. 559-1812. Adults are wanted to be part of the management for this team. Obviously you should be residing in Cay Hill.

**Announcement: Revellers Going To Anguilla**  
Survivors Carnival Troupe and No Limit Band remind revellers that they are still going to Anguilla. Interested persons should call Jasmine, tel. 558-4095, no later than Wednesday, July 23. Costumes may be purchased at a very low price.

**Summer Reading Programmes**  
Philipsburg Jubilee Library invites all teenagers to participate in its fun reading programme. Fill in a short test and get your personal book list. Read six books and be invited to a very special night at the library. Also movies (DVDs) will be shown at the library on Tuesdays. For more information and free participation, call tel. 542-2970 or check out the library's Website www.pjlbrary.n.

Programme for children, 10:30am to 12:00 noon; ages 8-10, Thursday, July 24. Complimentary tickets available, but limited, visit the library or call tel. 542-2970 as soon as possible.

**Animal Welfare Foundation Announcement**  
The St. Maarten Animal Welfare Foundation is soliciting donations of useful household and garden items, bric-a-brac, books, music, clothing, games, sports equipment and potted plants suitable for a fund-raising Flea Market and Plant Sale to be held during the summer. Items may be turned in to the Foundation office at Great Bay Marina during office hours Monday-Saturday, or call the Animal Ambulance, tel. 559-8887 for pick-up.

**Crafters Cottage Industry Courses**  
St. Maarten Crafters Cottage Industry Foundation summer classes in doll making, basket weaving, handbags, belts, etc., are about to start. For more information, call Kathy, tel. 556-9667.

**St. Maarten Academy Registration**  
St. Maarten Academy also invites all parents that its office will be open for registration of new students and payment of school fees for the school year 2003-2004, Monday, August 4, through Thursday, August 14, 10:00am to 2:00pm. Registration and payment of all fees must take place before the first day of school, Monday, August 18. School and book fee for school year 2003-2004: NAF. 662. New students are required to present two recent passport pictures, copy of their certificate or passport, registration paper from the Census Office, completed application form.

**St. Maarten Riding Club Summer Camp**  
St. Maarten Riding Club will hold Summer Camps for children ages 6 and up at its grounds on Union Road from now to Friday, August 29, Monday-Fridays, 9:00am to 12:00 noon, on a daily or weekly basis. Riding lessons, crafts, games, snacks, farm chores and seminars. Begins with welcome. Price: US\$15 per day. For more information and registration, call tel. 544-3931 evenings or 556-5540.

**Carib Swim Team's summer programme**  
Carib Swim Team's summer programme from now until the end of August. Crash learn-to-swim programme: Two-week cycles, weekdays, one hour per day, ages 6 and up, different levels. Children with G diploma and up: Introduction to competition swimming, Monday, Wednesday, Friday afternoons. Regular swimming lessons for children younger than 6 and adults. For information, call tel. 556-8003.

**Summer Dance Programme**  
ABC Dance Center, Paula's Country Inn, Peach Road, South Road, Philipsburg, will offer a Summer Dance Programme for children and adults, now through Friday, August 1. For more information, call Rudolph Davis, tel. 555-7450.

**Alpha And Omega Foundation Summer Programme**  
Positively Active Vacationing Youngsters summer programme for children ages 4-12 will run from now to Friday, August 8, daily, 8:00am to 5:00pm. Price: US\$120 per one-week session. For more information, call tel. 557-8202 or 542-4386.

**Caravanserei Tennis Camp**  
The Caravanserei Beach Resort Tennis Club is accepting registration for its youth summer camp programme of tennis, introduction to golf, swimming and a variety of other games, run by tennis pro Phillip Alonso, Monday-Friday, 10:00am to 4:00pm, until the end of August. Price: US\$120 per one-week session, including lunch every day. To register contact Alonso at 00590-690-320-99.

**REV STEVENS**  
ARE YOU SICK? ARE YOU SUFFERING? DO YOU NEED HELP IN YOUR LOVE LIFE? WELL, LOOK NO MORE, I AM A GOD SENT HEALER WHO HAS THE POWER THROUGH GOD TO HELP ALL MATTERS IN LIFE. DO YOU WORRY ALL THE TIME, CAN'T SLEEP? WELL, I HAVE ALL THE ANSWERS YOU NEED. CALL FOR IMMEDIATE RESULTS IN 24 HOURS.  
**CALL (001) 281 427 5626**

**Dear Queenie,**  
My parents are planning a big party for their 25th wedding anniversary and I bought myself a beautiful new dress for the occasion. I showed it to my sister and she said she loved it.  
I found out the other day that she then went out and bought the exact same dress to wear to a party she is going to a week or so before my parents' party. Now I'm afraid everyone will think I bought the same dress as hers, instead of the other way around. I'm so angry I don't want to even tell her.  
Queenie, wasn't this a rotten thing for her to do?—**Angry sister**

**Dear Angry sister,**  
Will the same people be at both parties? If so, your sister was very thoughtless, to say the least. If not, who will know? You have several options. You can individualise your dress with different accessories, shoes, etc., than your sister uses, or by having it altered. Or you can buy another dress - without telling your sister, of course.  
Whatever you decide, it hardly seems important enough to cause a rift between family members. Remember the saying, "Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery."

Only notes of fundraising events, non-profit or educational organisations will be placed in the Events/Notices column.

**Events**

**Thursday, July 24**  
**DRAWING COMPETITION AT THE ZOO**  
Part of St. Maarten Park's Summer School Holiday Programme. Different age groups, prizes for winner in each group. Keep watching for a new activity or event each week.  
Place: St. Maarten Park  
Price: Normal Park admission fees apply.  
For more information, call tel. 543-2030.

**Thursday, July 24**  
**LECTURE: ULTRA-PERIPHERAL STATUS**  
organised by Claude Wathey Political awareness Foundation. Presenter: Araban Minister Mito Crows.  
Place: Great Bay Beach Hotel Super Club.  
Time: 7:30pm  
Price: US\$20, includes cocktails after presentation.  
Tickets available from Valerie Giterson-Pantophlet, Brenda Wathey, Rudy Hoeve.

**Friday, July 25, and Saturday, July 26**  
**BERNARD SMITH LIVE IN CONCERT**  
Place: Friday, Solid Rock Assembly, French Quarter; Saturday, New Testament Baptist Church, Philipsburg, next to KFC.  
Time: 7:00pm nightly  
Admission: Free

**Saturday, July 26**  
**GOSPEL CONCERT**  
organised by Good News Baptist Church, featuring Deanna Watley of Tortola and other guest artists.  
Place: Celebration Palace, Bush Road.  
Time: 8:00pm  
Price: Adults, US\$10 in advance, \$15 at the door; children 5-12 years, \$5.

Books available at Family Book Store, Roy's Book Store in Philipsburg, Van Dorp in Madame Estate and Simpson Bay, youth leaders of all Baptist Churches and members of Good News Baptist Church of Condamine. For more information, call tel. 544-2556 or 544-2696.

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**God Gifted. Spiritualist Mother Betty.** Specializes reuniting lovers to stay and love only you. Brings strength, financial good luck, overcome money worries, conquers fear. Pastors Inner-peace. I won't ask why you've called. I'll tell you.  
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## French, Dutch tip off in Summer Slam competition

PHILIPSBURG—The Summer Slam basketball competition will be held at L.B. Scott Sports Auditorium this weekend.

The competition will consist of three days of basketball.

The three on three competition will be on Friday. Saturday will feature the slam-dunk and three-point shootout. Sunday will be the Cross-Border All Star Show-down.

A selection of top St. Martin athletes will tip off against the best of St. Maarten. Up for grabs are spots on the new Friendly Island Traveling team.

"Ambassador Sports International is forming a North America and Caribbean basketball League," said Summer Slam organizer Stanley Lint. "From this competition we hope to put together a team to play in that league."

Among the players suiting up for the Dutch selection are Mark "Bear" Edwards, Hilroy "Tibo" Johnson, Miguel "Smokes" Fleming, Eon "Gin and Juice" Charles and William Barry. The squad will also include Joel Amelia, Celcio Jameson, Louis Jeffers, Jerrol James, Clive Garo, Ricky van Patten, Alvin Agdonmar, Vidal Paul, Mark Lewis and



Stanley Lint and Brenda Maynard are the organizers of the Summer Slam three-day basketball competition that begins at L.B. Scott Sports Auditorium Friday.

Siegfried Hodge.

Wearing the French tricolours will be Shemroy Mussioning, Jonadab "Jojo" Levert, Jimmy Cincine, Ricky Fleming and Romald Benjamin. Also playing on the selection will be Victor "Old Mouth" Hughes, Joe Laine, Dean Sterling and Kenny van Hennegen.

At half time the Mission Impossible Girls will dance for the crowd.

The competition will begin at 7:00pm all three evenings. Admission is US \$2. Athletes interested in competing can register at the Sports Auditorium tonight beginning at 5:30pm.



The 11 to 12 St. Maarten Pony League baseball selection just returned with trophies Monday. It played in the Protect Our Nation's Youth Caribbean zone competition held in Puerto Rico. The 9 to 10 selection leaves today.

## Local Pony League team competes in Puerto Rico

PHILIPSBURG—The St. Maarten nine- to ten-year-old Pony League baseball team leaves today.

The tournament runs through Sunday.

Jose Alberto Gumbs at age 10 has made the team again. He will wear the number one uniform and be the squad's man behind the plate.

Also representing St. Maarten are Edwin Haynes, Shalden Cathalina, Jody



Jose Alberto Gumbs

Gerardus Brown, Edwin Gomez, Omar Fleming, Jose Gumbs and Thomas and George Mardenborough.

The selection is the third St. Maarten Pony League team to travel this year. The 11 to 12 team just returned with trophies Monday. It also played in Puerto Rico. The older division, 13 to 14, competed in St. Croix.

"The level of play in Puerto Rico was unbelievable," said coach Freddy Pinto. "These teams, even at this age, start training a year in advance. We started five or six weeks ago."

Wyatt, Rafael Richardson and Nicardo Simms,

## St. Maarten Bowlers clean up in Aruba

MADAME ESTATE—Laurens Pfennings cleaned up at the International Juniors Bowling Competition in Aruba this past week.

Pfennings returned to St. Maarten with trophies, a lot of trophies.

He was first in the singles competition. He was first in the overall standing for the week-long event. He was first in the stepladder competition, a one-day single elimination competition in the doubles and fourth in the team event.

Pfennings competed in the 11- to 15-year-old division. Several local bowlers travelled to Aruba for the tournament. In addition to Pfennings, St. Maarten was representing by Kenneth Varas, Jovan Halley, Steven Newton, Pavan Sadarangani, Carol Ruffini

and Bernardo Velasquez. In the older division, 16 to 23, the team of Varas, Halley, Newton and Raffini did the Friendly Island proud. They took first place.

Raffini and Newton finished third in the doubles competition. Halley took third place in the stepladder. Varas was fifth in the stepladder and fourth in the singles.

This is the second year in a row young bowlers from St. Maarten have competed in the international event. The group is already planning to compete in another youth competition in Puerto Rico in December.

Among the many sponsors helping the athletes were Intermar Shipping, Nagico, Fx Bowling Center, Smitco, Safari Car Rental and the St. Maarten Bowling Federation.



Laurens Pfennings rolls a strike at Fx Bowling Center during the St. Maarten Bowling Federation's Missio Summer Handicapped League last night. He just returned from competing in the international junior competition in Aruba.

## St. Maarten Little League teams drop two games each

PHILIPSBURG—St. Maarten's two travelling Little League teams are both 0-2 after two days of international competition.

The St. Maarten 11 to 12 division Little League team lost to Puerto Rico 9-3 Monday and to the British Virgin Islands 4-2 Sunday.

St. Maarten is in pool B along with the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico and the BVI. Puerto Rico leads the division at 2-0.

In zone A are Curaçao, host Puerto Rico, St. Croix, the Bahamas, and Aruba. Curaçao leads the division at 2-0. It defeated St. Croix 1-0 yesterday and the Bahamas 11-0 Monday.

The competition is scheduled to end Saturday. The winner will advance to the World Series playoffs.

Curaçao won the regional title last year. The Curaçao team defeated Puerto Rico 16-1 in the final. It advanced to the World Series quali-

fier, but was knocked out. The United States Great Lakes team won the 2002 World Series, defeating the team from Asia 1-0.

The St. Maarten Senior division squad, 15 to 16 years, is in Panama. The local team lost its first game against Panama 6-1 Sunday and was defeated by Puerto Rico 10-7 Monday.

Eleven teams are competing in the senior competition. St. Maarten is in pool A with Venezuela, Mexico, Panama, Puerto Rico and Colombia. Currently both Panama and Puerto Rico lead the pool at 2-0.

In pool B are St. Thomas, Curaçao, host Panama, Aruba and El Salvador. El Salvador is undefeated in pool B at 2-0.

Curaçao won the senior division regional title last year and went on to the World Series in the United States.



The parents of the Netherlands Antilles Kingdom Games basketball selection team met with team coaches yesterday. The team left today. It will play its first game Saturday against the Netherlands.

## Air conditioning factor in Kingdom Games basketball

PHILIPSBURG—Air conditioning! Most people in the tropics appreciate an air conditioner on those hot breezefless days of summer.

Unfortunately air conditioning may be the downfall of the Netherlands Antilles basketball team.

The selection, comprising

mostly athletes from St. Maarten, is headed to Aruba for the start of the Kingdom Games. They will play in Complejo Deportivo Betico Croes (Betico Croes Sports Complex). It is air conditioned.

"Air conditioning will definitely benefit the Nether-

lands," said Emmanuel York, the delegation leader of the basketball team. York addressed the team's parents yesterday.

"The air conditioning will not bother Aruba, as they practice with it. It's our team that might have problems."

The selection team leaves today. It will travel to Curaçao and spend two nights there, as all the direct flights to Aruba had already been booked.

"We arrive in Aruba at 11:00am Friday," said York. "The welcoming party is that night. We will have to try to get into the auditorium for a practice."

The Netherlands Antilles team plays the opening basketball game of the competition Saturday. Right from the start the local selection will face the Netherlands. The team went out for pizza and a movie last night, after the parents meeting, to help calm pre-game nerves.

"It was Frans Richardson who treated the team," said York. "We are very appreciative of his support."

Richardson is also involved in repairing the floor in L.B. Scott Sports Auditorium, where the selection team has been training since February.

"Once we return we will keep the team together," said York. There are plans for the selection to compete in two additional tournaments. One is slated for late August and the second for October.

## Tennis academy growing, new facility ready in 2005

PHILIPSBURG—The Anguilla Tennis Academy summer camp will host a free clinic in St. Maarten Saturday.

Young tennis players ages eight to 16 will meet at the Raoul Hildge Sports Complex courts. They will receive instruction from several top US coaches from 9:00am until noon.

The coaches have been in Anguilla for the past two weeks conducting a tennis programme for nearly 150 children from Anguilla. The summer tennis camp is in its eighth year.

The programme will be based in the Tennis Academy's six-acre seven-court facility two years from now. "The summer of 2005 is the target date for the opening," said Michelle Lake, founder of the academy and organizer of the summer camp programme.

He explained that the complex would feature six professional grade courts plus a center court with seating for nearly 2,000. There will be a large building on the premises that will house the academy, in addition to a pro shop, meeting center, lounges and both men's and women's dressing facilities.

The cost of the projected is estimated at US \$1.5 million dollars.

Lake began his tennis career after receiving a free lesson at age 11. He loved the sport and practiced. He worked hard and earned a tennis scholarship to Gardner Webb University in North Carolina.

Lake returned to his home in Anguilla with four tennis teammates from his school during the summer of his freshman year. They gathered up 40 children and held the first summer camp.

Lake went on to earn his degree in mathematics.

The camp continues to grow. Now more than 900 children have received top level instruction and, more important, the young athletes have been seen by and are making contacts with US-based college coaches.

This year coaches helping at the camp included Bill Riddle of Tennessee, head coach of University of Arkansas, Robert Cox and Eric Shore, head coach from Alabama. Riddle has helped out at the camp three years in a row.

Not only are more coaches interested in helping at the camp, but children from other countries are interested in the programme too. Children from Colorado, Kentucky, New Jersey, Tennessee, Puerto Rico and Barbados have travelled to Anguilla to

participate in the camp.

"The camp is also a culture exchange," said Lake. "This year we even had a request from Nigeria to send athletes."

Currently there just is not enough space for more children or coaches. The tennis camp is spread out amongst four locations, requiring the children to be bused around the island. This year Lake had to charge the athletes \$25 to help cover the transportation cost.

"Once we have this complex built, the sky is the limit," said Lake. "We will even have a professional seniors competition here."

Lake and former tennis pro Johan Kriek attempted to

bring a senior professional competition to St. Maarten last year, but could not get enough sponsors.

To help raise the money needed to finance the tennis academy Lake has started a "buy a brick" programme. Sponsors can have their names inscribed on the bricks that will serve as the walkway into the new facility.

Lake wants to share the tennis camp with the surrounding islands too. For the second year in a row, the camp will come to St. Maarten. Children interested in attending the one-day clinic can contact George Richards at 542-2331 or stop by the Raoul Hildge tennis courts.



The Anguilla Tennis Academy expects to have a home by 2005. The academy will have a US \$1.5-million seven-court complex.

## SOCCER DEMANDS *Continued from page 40*

three years ago. They have represented St. Maarten in international play ever since.

It is not the first time the association president for nearly 20 years has been accused of "rigging" a competition. There have been accusations that premier league players from other islands have been brought in to play finals for the Victory Boys.

There have been allegations that key players on opposing teams had been stopped by police and detained on the day of matches. Roumou works for the police department. The allegations have all been refuted but just the hint of impropriety has caused many teams not to join the soccer association.

In the current competition

the Victory Boys are in fifth place. The Haitian Super Stars in first place. The Warlords are second but close enough in points that they could move into the winner spot. There are just six games left to play to complete the tournament.

"We will be delivering a letter to the board demanding an emergency meeting," explained Marsham. "At the meeting we will make it clear we want this competition to count as the championship. If the board refuses to reverse their decision we will have to take further action."

Monday in his call for the team representatives to gather, Marsham had indicated he was prepared to call for a vote of no confidence in the board.

## Wizards in line to take Arenas from Warriors

WASHINGTON—The Washington Wizards have signed free agent guard Gilbert Arenas of the Golden State Warriors to an offer sheet, the NBA team announced on Tuesday.

Wizards president of basketball operations Eric Grunfeld confirmed the team had signed Arenas, but would not release terms. Reports suggested it was a six-year deal worth about \$65 million.

The Warriors have 15 days to match the offer to retain Arenas, but they will have trouble doing so, due to their severe salary cap restrictions. "Gilbert is an outstanding young player who fits in very well with the core of our team," Grunfeld said. "The team is full of talented young players who can grow together and be a playoff contender for years to come."

Arenas, a restricted free agent, was named the NBA's Most Improved Player last season after averaging 18.3 points and 6.3 assists per game for the Warriors. In his two-year career he has played 129 games, averaging 15.6 points and 6.3 assists.

The 21-year-old was drafted by Golden State in the second round (31st overall) of the 2001 NBA Draft out of the University of Arizona after his sophomore season.



England wicketkeeper Alex Stewart takes a catch during a nets session at Edgbaston in central England, on Tuesday.

## Alec Stewart announces international retirement

LONDON—England wicketkeeper Alec Stewart will retire from test cricket after the five-match series against South Africa starting on Thursday.

Stewart, 40, who plays his 129th test at Edgbaston this week, has scored 2,281 runs at an average of 40.19, including 15 centuries, since making his debut in 1990. He has played more tests than any other England player and is second only to his former captain Graham Gooch in the list of England test run-scorers.

"I've given it a lot of thought, and I let Duncan (coach Ian Duncan Fletcher) know this morning over breakfast and then informed (chairman of

selectors) David Graveney as well," Stewart told a news conference on Tuesday. "It's not something I've taken lightly. I had 13 years as an international cricketer and it's not something you just give away."

I could have left it until the end of the summer but I felt it was better to get it over now," Fletcher said: "I still believe that Alec is the best all-round wicketkeeper we have got by some distance but there are some young keepers coming through. I think he has got better and better over the last couple of years and the thing that has impressed me most is his professionalism and the way he has been a role model for younger guys."

## Hudson tames Royals bats as Athletics romp to 10-0 win

KANSAS CITY—Tim Hudson pitched a one-hitter over seven shutout innings and Eurbiel Durazo hit a pair of homers to give the Oakland Athletics a 10-0 win over the Kansas City Royals in American League action on Tuesday.

Eric Chavez also homered, had three hits and drove in three runs for the A's, who pounded out 13 hits including five homers to support Hudson's masterful performance.

Hudson (8-4) struck out eight and walked one, while allowing just three batters to reach base. John Halama tossed two shutout innings of relief to complete the three-hitter.

Adam Piatt and Ramon Hernandez also homered for the A's, who won their second straight game after a four-game losing streak.

Kris Wilson (5-1) lost for the first time in 34 appearances—dating back to September 7—by allowing six runs, five earned, on six hits with two strikeouts and one walk in a five-inning start. The AL Central-leading Royals are 3-3 since the All-Star break, but still have a five-game lead atop the division.

In St. Petersburg, Ramon Ortiz allowed three hits over seven innings to give the Anaheim Angels a 3-1 win over the Tampa Bay Devil Rays. Ortiz (12-7) allowed one unearned run with six strikeouts and three walks.

Troy Percival pitched the ninth for his 21st save, while Tim Lincecum drove in two runs and Garret Anderson had two hits and one RBI.

Joe Kennedy (3-7) allowed three runs on six hits over seven innings with eight strikeouts and one walk to take the loss.

In Baltimore, Jay Gibbons homered and drove in four runs to lead the Orioles to their sixth straight victory, a 12-6 verdict over the Texas Rangers.

Roberto Machado also homered for Baltimore, while Brian Roberts and Jeff Conine both drove in a pair of runs. Reliever Travis Driskill (3-3) tossed 3 1/3 scoreless innings, allowing three hits, for the win.

John Thomson (7-10) allowed seven runs, six earned, on seven hits over 3 2/3 innings.

Hank Blalock and Einar Diaz both homered for Texas, while Alex Rodriguez had four hits.

In Chicago, Bartolo Colon

won his first game in six weeks and Frank Thomas and Magglio Ordonez both homered in the first inning, leading the White Sox past the Cleveland Indians 5-2. Colon (7-9) went 7 2/3 innings, allowing two runs on six hits with four strikeouts and no walks.

American League	
R. Sox	- Tigers 7-4
Twins	- Mariners 8-10

National League	
Phillies	- Mets 5-7
Marlins	- Expos 9-1
Pirates	- Astros 0-2
Reds	- Brewers 4-6
Braves	- Cubs 8-4

## Baseball Highlights

### Lofton and Ramirez leave Pirates for Cubs

PITTSBURGH—The Pittsburgh Pirates continued unloading their star players on Tuesday, shipping center fielder Kenny Lofton and third baseman Aramis Ramirez to the Chicago Cubs. The Pirates announced the deal moments after losing 2-0 to the Houston Astros.

Lofton will be reunited in Chicago with his former manager at San Francisco, Dusty Baker.

In exchange the Pirates, who are heading for an 11th straight losing season, will receive shortstop Jose Hernandez, minor league pitcher Matt Bruback and a player to be named later, believed to be another minor leaguer. The Pirates also gave up a small amount of money, but trimmed their payroll by making the deal.

Pittsburgh deal left-hander Scott Sauerbeck to the Boston Red Sox earlier Tuesday.

### Yankees add oldest player to bullpen

SAN DIEGO—The New York Yankees acquired veteran left-hander Jesse Orsoco from the San Diego Padres on Tuesday, adding another arm to their bullpen for the pennant run.

The Yankees obtained the 46-year-old for cash considerations or a player to be named. The oldest player in the major leagues, Orsoco has pitched more games (1,299) than any other player in league history while playing for seven teams—the Los Angeles Dodgers, Cleveland Indians, Milwaukee-Brewers, Baltimore Orioles, St. Louis Cardinals, Padres and Mets.

## THORPE BEATS VAN DEN HOOGENBAND

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for the 20-year-old, who added: "It was good, but not great. I was pleased but felt with the type of preparation and training I have been doing, I should have swum a bit faster. I swam the race pretty good, but I would have liked to have been quicker than I was."

The final had been eagerly awaited by the large crowd and was expected to be the best race of the first three days in the pool. Thorpe, who looked to be swimming within himself en route to winning his third successive 400 freestyle on Sunday, had been under pressure from Van den Hoogenband to defend his 200 crown as the Dutchman swam faster in both the heats

and the semi-finals. Van den Hoogenband, attempting to complete a full set of medals in the event having won bronze in Perth in 1998 behind Australia's Michael Klim and Italy's Massimiliano Rosolino and silver in 2001, behind Thorpe, was also disappointed with his time.

"I could have lived with the result if I swam a good time, but that wasn't the case," he said. "The only positive thing is that it's a silver medal, but it didn't go the way I expected."

Thorpe's fellow Australians Matt Welsh and Leisel Jones, heady world record breakers on Monday, came down to earth with a bump as both were beaten in finals.

Welsh, who scored an upset victory in world record time in Monday's 50 butterfly final, lost his 100 backstroke world crown to American Aaron Peirsol, whose sister Hayley had earlier achieved a silver medal in the 1500 freestyle. Welsh shared silver with Russia's Arkady Vyachanin.

Seventeen-year-old Jones, who broke the women's 100 breaststroke world record in Monday's semi-finals, found herself left with the bronze in the final behind China's Luo Xuejuan—the first woman to retain the world title in the event—and American Amanda Beard.



Australia's gold medalist Ian Thorpe (C), Holland's silver medalist Pieter Van Den Hoogenband (R) and Australia's bronze medalist Grant Hackett pose with their medals after the victory ceremony for the 200m freestyle race, at the 10th World Swimming Championships, on Tuesday.

## Holyfield vows to retire at the top

LOS ANGELES—Former heavyweight boxing champion Evander Holyfield may be 40 years old but he vowed on Tuesday to keep fighting until he regains his crown.

His next opponent, International Boxing Federation (IBF) World Cruiserweight champion James Toney believes the end may be near for Holyfield, the only heavyweight in history to win a world titles on four separate occasions.

"This will be your last fight," Toney told Holyfield during a news conference here promoting their bout at the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino in Las Vegas on October 4.

Holyfield failed to impress in his last fight, losing on points to Chris Byrd for the then-vacant IBF version of the heavyweight championship in December 2002. He faced questions about when he might decide to finally decide to end a career that began at the age of just eight when he entered a Pee Wee tournament.

"The end is when I'm undisturbed champion of the world and I can't put that into a timeframe," Holyfield told reporters.

To fulfil his dream, Holyfield must first secure a fight against one of the current champions. Britain's Lennox Lewis currently holds the World Boxing Council's version of the title, Roy Jones Jr. is the World Boxing Association champion and recent opponent Chris Byrd holds the IBF crown.

Holyfield said his box-office appeal should ensure he got another title shot. "People like making money and when I fight people come to watch and the only way you can make money is people watching. I'm sure neither one of the champions want to fight me but because the big payday is there they will come along," the former champion told reporters.

Toney, 34, will be fighting as a heavyweight for the first time. He picked up IBF cruiserweight crown with a points victory over champion Vassily Jirov in April this year.

He was asked by reporters about how he would prepare for the step-up in weight. "I'm going to eat a lot more," the Grand Rapids, Michigan native said.



PSV captain Mark Van Bommel (L) fights for the ball with Vikash Dhoraso of France's Olympique Lyonnais during the 2003 Peace Cup Korea final match at Seoul World Cup stadium in Seoul, on Tuesday.

## PSV win water-logged final against Lyon

SEOUL—A Mark van Bommel penalty gave Dutch champions PSV a 1-0 victory over Olympique Lyon of France in the final of the Peace Cup pre-season tournament on Tuesday.

In torrential rain at Seoul's World Cup Stadium, both sides struggled on a pitch that became increasingly water-logged.

"Regarding tonight's game we have seen two different matches, in the first half it was a football match and in the second half, it was almost water ballet, or water polo," PSV coach Gus Hiddink told a post-match news conference.

But the former South Korea coach, a hero in the Asian country after steering the national side to last year's World Cup semi-finals on home soil, said it had been a good tournament for PSV and welcomed the preparation for next season. "I think we de-

## Czech defender Grygera signs for Ajax

AMSTERDAM—Czech defender Zdenek Grygera has signed a four-year contract with Ajax, the Amsterdam club said on Tuesday.

Grygera, 23, who joins Ajax from Sparta Prague, has played in the Czech national team since August 2001.

French defender Julien Escudé and Belgian striker Wesley Sonck have also signed for the Dutch club.

served to win based on the first half," he added.

The only goal came after a meandering run by Arjen Robben from the halfway line ended with him being brought down in the penalty area after 23 minutes. Van Bommel coolly converted the penalty high into the left corner, bringing loud cheers from a partisan crowd of 33,778 who were mainly behind Hiddink's PSV, who include two South Korean internationals, Park Ji-sung and Lee Young-gyo.

A single goal was enough to secure PSV the \$2 million prize in a game that became almost farcical at times as the players struggled to stand up and make the ball to move. "If it had been a normal game I think it should have been abandoned because of the high injury risk and the inability to meet normal game conditions, but to meet Peace Cup regulations and the spectator enthusiasm we decided to play on," said Lyon coach Paul Le Guen.

The French champions were mostly restricted to long-range efforts in the second half, although it took two attempts by PSV goalkeeper Ronald Waterreus to hold a strike from Juninho Pernambucano.

At the other end, French international Gregory Coupet made a series of excellent late saves after Robben and substitute Mateja Kezman were clean through on goal.

South Korea playmaker Park, who won the tournament's Golden Boot award, said, "I'm very glad to be back in Seoul and to play in front of the fans."

## Dutch midfielder Bosvelt set for Manchester City

ROTTERDAM—Feyenoord and Manchester City have agreed an undisclosed fee for the transfer of Dutch international midfielder Paul Bosvelt, the Dutch club said on Tuesday.

The 33-year-old will fly to Manchester today to sign a two-year contract with the English premier league club. The news comes a day after City completed the signing of England midfielder Trevor Sinclair from West Ham for 2.5 million pounds (\$4.01 million).

Bosvelt played six seasons for Feyenoord, helping them win the Dutch title in 1999 and the UEFA Cup in 2002. He has played 18 times for the Dutch national team but is probably best remembered in Manchester for a vicious tackle on Denis Irwin in a Champions League match



Paul Bosvelt

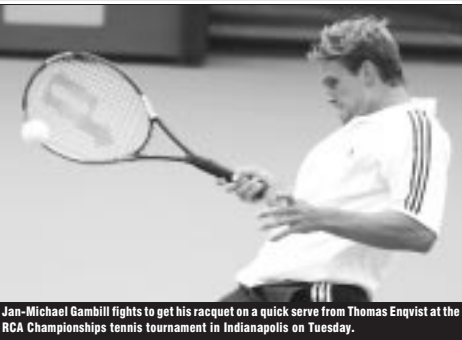
in 1997 when the Irish defender was playing for Manchester United. The tackle left Irwin sidelined for months with a bad knee injury although amazingly Bosvelt, who later apologised, was never booked.

Bosvelt had been linked with a move to Scottish champions Rangers but that deal failed to materialise, opening the

way for City.

"Last week several parts of the media reported that I had a problem with the coach. That is absolute nonsense," Bosvelt told the Feyenoord website. "I spoke with the coach about it and we closed that book. The only advantage of all those stories was that the attention of clubs such as Manchester City was drawn to them and they were prepared to pay the transfer fee."

Bosvelt played 177 league matches for the Rotterdam side and scored 33 goals. Feyenoord and City are due to meet in a pre-season friendly in Denmark on Friday but Bosvelt is not planning to take part. City, who finished ninth in the league last season, signed goalkeeper David Seaman from Arsenal last month.



Jan-Michael Gambill fights to get his racquet on a quick serve from Thomas Enqvist at the RCA Championships tennis tournament in Indianapolis on Tuesday.

## Andy Roddick rallies to beat Saulnier at RCA Championships

INDIANAPOLIS—Top seed Andy Roddick survived a second round scare at the RCA Championships on Tuesday, needing three sets to tame young Frenchman Cyril Saulnier 6-7 6-3 7-6.

Playing in his first match since the Wimbledon semifinals, Roddick, who received a first round bye, showed signs of rust dropping the opening set in a tie-break 7-5 and falling behind 3-1 in the second. But the American world number six, backed by the home crowd, steadied himself to level the match at a set apiece.

The 20-year-old American, twice a winner this season, continued to battle in the third before prevailing in another tie-break, 7-4. Roddick could have expected a tough fight from Saulnier, the Frenchman forcing him to go through tough sets at the Nasdaq-100 Open in March.

In their second round action, third seed Sjeng Schalken of the Netherlands breezed past Peru's Ivan Miranda of Peru 6-3 6-1, while fifth seeded American Jan-Michael Gambill strolled to a 6-2 6-2 victory

over Thomas Enqvist, stalling the Swede's comeback from shoulder surgery.

The first seed to fall at the \$600,000 event was number 12 American Brian Vahaly, who was stopped 6-3 4-6 7-6 by South African Wesley Moodie.

Fourteenth seed Nicolas Kiefer of Germany ended Indian qualifier Prakash Amrith's run with 6-3 6-1 victory while struggling Swiss Heli Huber hammered Israel's Harel Levy 6-1 6-1 in an opening round match to register his first tour win of the season.



# SPORTS ARENA



## Soccer teams demand meeting with board

PHILIPSBURG—The St. Maarten Soccer Association competition has been put on hold. There will be no game tonight. The Funmakers were scheduled to face the Shell Victory Boys.

Team representatives of six of the nine teams currently engaged in the football competition met at the Raoul Illidge Sports Complex last night. As footballers practiced on the field their managers met in the stands. The teams decided to stop the competition and demand an emergency meeting with the association board.

"We want the board to reconsider its decision to make this competition just a trial event," said Leslie Marsham. The manager of the Pepsi Warlords continued, "the majority of the teams want the competition to continue and to count."

Originally the competition



Team representatives of six of the nine teams in the St. Maarten Soccer Association competition met at the Raoul Illidge Sports Complex last night. They voted to suspend play in the tournament and demand a meeting with the association board. The board had recently announced the competition would no longer be for the national championship.

had been billed as the national championship. As such the winners would have the right to represent St. Maarten abroad or in international events held locally.

At the meeting last night were the Warlords, Nagico United, Western Union Strikers, Black Stars, Funmakers and the Liberation Stars. Not present were the Haitian Super Stars, the Shell Victory Boys and the St. Martin Mixed team.

The tournament has been plagued with problems. One footballer was accidentally killed by a kick to the belly. St. Martin Mixed quit the competition due to what it termed poor line judges. Several teams have walked off the field complaining about referees. Other teams have failed to show up for games.

As a result of the problems, the association board

decided not to count the competition as the national championship, according to the event coordinator Romeo Kromopawiro. He said on Sunday, "we made some mistakes but we have learned from them. We will start a proper competition in September or October."

The teams are angry. They have played hard and spent a lot of money in an effort to win the championship. Many, including Marsham, believe the real reason the tournament is no longer the national championship is due to the fact that the Shell Victory Boys are not in front.

The Victory Boys are organized by the soccer association president Jean Pierre Roumou. They won the last competition the soccer association held. That was

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## Thorpe wins showdown, Phelps smashes own world record

BARCELONA—Ian Thorpe scored a comprehensive victory over his Olympic nemesis Pieter van den Hoogenband and Michael Phelps set a majestic world record at the world swimming championships on Tuesday.

Thorpe retained his 200 metres freestyle title to take his record haul of world championship gold medals to 10—two in 1998, an unprecedented six in 2001 and two in the first three days of action in the Palau Sant Jordi pool.

Phelps lowered his own 200 butterfly world mark by more

than half a second, sweeping away from his semi-final rivals in one minute 53.93 seconds to beat the 1:54.58 mark he set in winning the title at the last world championships in Japan in 2001.

Thorpe, who won the 400 freestyle world title on Sunday for a record third time, trailed his Dutch rival at the 100-metre mark but had hit the front by the end of the third length and surged away to win in one minute 45.14 seconds. Van den Hoogenband, who was also well beaten by Thorpe at the

2001 world championships, had to settle for silver again, touching more than a second adrift in 1:46.43.

Grant Hackett, silver medalist behind team mate Thorpe in the 400 freestyle for the third successive time, took the bronze in 1:46.85.

Unfortunately, Thorpe himself was far from impressed. "It was an average time but I'm happy with the result," Thorpe said.

It was the 10th world gold

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USA's Michael Phelps swims his 200m butterfly semi-final at the 10th World Swimming Championships in Barcelona, Spain on Tuesday.