TWO ALLEGED ROBBERS EMERGED EMPTY HANDED AND BADLY BEATEN

SANTA ELENA TOWN, Cayo, Wednesday, March 4, 2009:

Mr. Greedy’s Pizzeria on the Western Highway in Santa Elena Town was attacked in a second robbery.

Police reports that it was shortly after 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 4, when two male persons of dark complexion entered the business establishment. One of them was armed with what appeared to be a 9mm handgun and the other was brandishing a machete.

Upon entering, the gunman pointed the gun at owners/brothers Chris and Jonathan Cariddi who were both inside the pizzeria along with their girlfriends, Chris’s infant child, two waitresses and the cook. They were all monitoring the results of the municipal elections on television.

The young detainees: Jahnon Trapp, 18 and Leonard Pandy, 20

When the gunman turned and pointed the gun to the infant child, the father, Chris jumped in to protect his child and in the process he was attacked by the machete man who lashed him with the machete at least two times across the back and one time in the head.

Chris eventually got the upper hand on the machete man and administered a beating on him. By this time Jonathan became free and he joined in the beating.

The two waitresses fled for protection into an inner side office and they exited the

Another Massive UDP Victory At The Polls

Introducing your new UDP Town Council (2009-2012) for the Twin Towns of San Ignacio and Santa Elena PHOTO-(L-R) Eduardo “Eddy” Cano, Moses Chuc, Desol Neal, Mayor John Francis August Jr., Bernadette Fernandez, Earl Trapp and Vanessa Neal (PAGE 4)

Please Turn To Page 11
Elections and Improving the standard of living for all Belizeans

Anyone who studies the political trend in Belize could have predicted a low voter turnout in Wednesday’s municipal elections. Belizean voters are intelligent people. They are keen observers and in most cases, they are in continuous pursuit for improved conditions of living for themselves, their families and for progress and development within their communities.

The People’s United Party (PUP) government of 2003-2008 demonstrated how a central government can usurp this basic human desire. That era clearly demonstrated how a central government can halt progress and development by victimizing opposition local governments.

Voters can still recall that it was none other than the then Prime Minister, Said Musa who publicly told the nation, in the wake of the massive defeat suffered by his party in the March 2006 municipal elections that “the people have spoken and they have spoken loudly.” Notwithstanding his party’s massive defeat at the municipal polls, he pledged to work with the new UDP Town Councils.

No sooner had Said Musa pledged his support when he began unleashing the worst form of victimization and political narrow mindedness the likes of which the nation had never seen before.

The most notable vindictive action of the last Said Musa government was the disbursement of September celebration funds to unelected PUP standard bearers across the nation while totally ignoring all duly elected UDP Mayors and Area Representatives.

In that repressive era, voters recall that the Ministry of Works began operating on instructions to refrain from doing any works on roads and streets within town limits. The municipal streets were deteriorating at a rapid pace while Town Councils could hardly find funds for basic expenditure much less for costly street maintenance, and so entire communities were selfishly victimized.

Furthermore, in the San Ignacio/Santa Elena scenario, monthly subventions, payable to the Council, were diverted directly into the account of a private garbage collection company as payment on a bloated and burdensome arrangement.

With the lack of its monthly subvention the San Ignacio/Santa Elena Town Council was left to fend for itself as it struggled each week to raise the funds to pay its employees.

In fact throughout the entire country, UDP Mayors were faced with the weekly challenge to find salaries for Council employees. By the time employees received their paychecks on Fridays, the cycle continue as early as the following Monday morning, UDP Mayors began scrambling to come up with salaries for the next Friday.

Operating under these harsh conditions therefore left very little, if any time for the Mayors to concentrate on project for the development of their municipalities.

While the current leader of the People’s United Party, John Briceno continues to find excuses in a feeble attempt to justify the trashing his party took at the polls in Wednesday’s municipal elections, the harsh reality is that the actions of his party, whilst in government, is now coming back to haunt him.

Generally the residents in any community are seeking ways to improve their living conditions and so they realize that, this early after a general election is hardly the time to elect an opposition party at the municipal level for, although the PUP are no longer in central government, they fear a repetition to the 2006-2008 vindictive experience.

Almost immediately after the February 7, 2008 general election victory of the United Democratic Party, the people of San Ignacio/Santa Elena experienced something they had not seen in many, many years and that was the sight of Ministry of Works equipment and workers engaged in the rehabilitation of municipal streets.

The people were desirous of seeing a continuation of this level of cooperation that was missing in previous years.

They don’t want to go back to the days when opposition Mayors would have had to be out of their minds to even think about approaching their local Ministry of Works with a request for assistance in the maintenance of municipal streets.

The next round of municipal elections in March 2012 will be a different experience as it comes within less than a year of the 2013 general elections.

The outcome of the 2012 municipal elections will be a preview of what is to come in 2013, in like fashion as the March 2006 municipal election was a direct reflection of the 7th February 2008 general election results.

The United Democratic Party must therefore remain focused. It must steer clear of even the perception of corruption whilst seeking to improve the standard of living for all Belizeans.
SAN IGNACIO
TOWN, Cayo
Monday, March 2, 2009:

After engaging in several minor crime of violence within the community, an 18 year old Santa Elena boy today graduated into the major leagues as he is now facing a more serious attempt murder charge.

A police press release informs of the arrest of Clifford “Preck Preck” Neal Jr., 18, Belizean laborer of a Mabel Pitts address in Santa Elena. The release informs that it was shortly after 6 o’clock on the evening of Saturday, February 28, 2009 when they were summoned to the San Ignacio Town Hospital where they came upon a male person undergoing emergency treatment of several stab wounds to the body. The injured person was identified as Amir Rodriguez of a George Price Avenue Address in Santa Elena. He was later transferred, in a critical condition, to the Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital in Belize City.

Police investigation revealed that the victim was socializing with some friends at the Pit Pan Club, Savannah Area, San Ignacio Town when an altercation erupted resulting in Neal allegedly attacking Rodriguez and in the process inflicting several stab wound to Rodriguez’ body.

Clifford “Preck Preck” Neal Jr. appeared in court on Monday, March 3 and was remanded to the central prison in Hattieville. He is scheduled to return to court on Thursday, April 9, 2009.

Clifford “Preck Preck” Neal Jr., 18,
Another Massive UDP Victory At The Polls

BELIZE, Wednesday, March 4, 2009:

Municipal elections country-wide were held today as voters, in seven towns and two cities, took to the polls to elect local leaders to serve them for the next three years.

There were a total of 67 seats up for election – seven in each of the six towns and Belmopan City and eleven in Belize City.

The voter turnout was not surprisingly low as voters trickled into the polling stations across the country.

In comparison to previous years, the results were announced rather early as the Elections and Boundaries Commission experimented with a new counting process whereby the votes were counted at the respective polling stations instead of at a central station in each municipality as was previously done.

By as early as 10:30 p.m., the results began coming in and by 2:00 am, the counting was over across the country.

The United Democratic Party recorded yet another big victory as it captured 64 of the 67 vacant seats.

All seats countrywide went to the United Democratic Party except for three in Orange Walk Town.

This is the same amount of seats that the UDP won in the March 2006 election, the only difference being that this time around UDP Mayors were elected in all nine municipalities as opposed to one PUP Mayor in the 2006 elections who was elected in Punta Gorda.

In the San Ignacio/Santa Elena elections, voters from three constituencies namely Cayo North, Cayo Central and Cayo North East took to the polls. From a total of 10, 109 registered voters on the list, only 5,475 or 54.15% cast their votes on election day.

The following is a break down of voter turnout and the results of the San Ignacio/Santa Elena election whereby all 7 UDP candidates were elected to serve for the next three years.

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We take this opportunity to inform that all our San Ignacio Branch and other Branches countrywide will be closed for business on Saturday, January 24, 2009.

Normal business resumes at 8:00 am on Tuesday, March 10, 2009.

During this period however, our 24 hour ATM Service will remain in full operation.

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**Your Horoscope & Lucky Numbers**

**ARIES** (March 22 TO April 20)
There will be a lot of preoccupation at the work front as your ideas are likely to be met with resistance. Relationship with colleagues will need to be sorted out. Make sure that the anger or the irritation is not misdirected at family or people who are dependent on you. Take care to incorporate a simple spiritual regimen into your routine.

Lucky numbers : 9, 21, 43.

**TAURUS** (April 21 to May 21)
This week brings your strengths to the fore and you are able to take on the challenges in a fair new light. What is paramount at this moment is to keep your focus and go for the kill you are aiming for professionally. There could be some grim undercurrents at work but there will be no confrontation in the open. You will need to take care of your health.

Lucky numbers : 6, 20, 52.

**GEMINI** (May 22 to June 21)
You will be drawn to close a pending matter. It will become imperative to deal with it. There has been quite a bit of dillydallying with it but you will have to take matters in your own hands. You will be brimming with new ideas but there could be many roadblocks in their implementation. There will be many demands from your family also. Patience at this time will pay off brilliantly.

Lucky numbers : 5, 23, 36.

**CANCER** (June 22 to July 23)
This week has you on your toes as there will be much to be done socially and professionally. The latter part can be handled with ease but it is the former that has you worrying. Entertaining people with diverse personalities can be a daunting task. Single people could run into a suitable partner. However, it will do well to sound out the person before getting into any kind of commitment.

Lucky numbers : 2, 28, 65.

**LEO** (July 24 to August 21)
You are fortunate to be taken off from work and there is also respite from the tumultuous feelings that you have been experiencing. You are finally able to sit back and relax. This could possibly be because of some old friend whose company switches gears for you. There will be focus on some activities that involve community welfare and this does a whole lot of good for your internal being.

Lucky numbers : 1, 26, 78.

**VIRGO** (August 22 to September 21)
There will be appreciation from superiors and cooperation from your colleagues at work. However, there is something that you are keeping in your heart for which you are worried. You could be a whole lot introspective and could be adopting new ways of healing yourself. There will be a strong urge to get away from the humdrum of life to hill stations or health retreats.

Lucky numbers : 5, 15, 46.

**LIBRA** (September 22 to October 23)
There will be remarkable developments in the realm of spirituality. You find a few answers that give you tremendous satisfaction. On the more worldly front, there is something that you are keeping in your heart for which you are worried. You could be a whole lot introspective and could be adopting new ways of healing yourself. There will be a strong urge to get away from the humdrum of life to hill stations or health retreats.

Lucky numbers : 5, 15, 46.

**SCORPIO** (October 24 to November 21)
You are able to put aside the mental mess and anguish and deal with some of the issues facing you. Your run-in with monetary issues continues, but it is easier on you as there are more funds flowing at your disposal. If you have started a new venture recently, it will pay you back quite well, but you will have to establish a good management system while maintaining good business principles and work ethics. Exercise caution while driving.

Lucky numbers : 33, 61, 89.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21)
There is some long pending issue that gets resolved and hence you are more engaged in doing something constructive with the people you love. There will be increased interactions with close relatives. Major focus could also be on the work around your house repairs, renovation, buying a new house etc.

Lucky numbers : 3, 19, 74.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 20)
This is a phase during which you are likely to be sucked into work completely. You will get to work on a project that you are tremendously passionate about. There will be complete engagement in this area of activity and you might end up ignoring your loved ones. However, the fervour of achievement makes you plunge headlong into this without any qualms.

Lucky numbers : 8, 27, 81.

**AQUARIUS** (January 21 to February 19)
The financial situation becomes more comfortable for you. This is one area in which there will be no longer any worries for you. You will be spending a shoulder to many troubled people. It is good to comfort but to take on someone else’s worries and let that anguish manifest in your own life is not good. There will be some pleasant social interactions in a kind that make your heart flutter a bit.

Lucky numbers : 30, 64, 95.

**PISCES** (February 20 to March 21)
There will be a strong attachment with the elderly in the family. You are drawn towards activities that have scope to put you in the light as a nice human being. However, do not get carried too far into the trip where all you actions are simply done for looking good in the public eye. Take caution not to step into boundaries that other people have drawn.

Lucky numbers : 34, 76, 98.

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Happy Baron Bliss Day To All: From The STAR Newspaper
By: Wellington C. Ramos

On Wednesday, March 4th 2009 despite a low turn out throughout the country of Belize, the United Democratic Party (UDP) defeated the People’s United Party (PUP) and all the other parties and Independent candidates who contested the nationwide municipal elections in a landslide by winning 64 out of 67 seats with the PUP winning three seats in Orange Walk Town. The UDP won all seats in Corozal Town, Belize City, San Ignacio Town, San Pedro Town, Belmopan City, Benque Viejo Town, Dangriga Town and Punta Gorda Town. This time around, they won all the Mayoral seats including the Mayoral seat in Punta Gorda Town which they lost in the last municipal election. In March of 2006, the United Democratic Party (UDP) defeated the People’s United Party (PUP) the then governing party in a municipal election landslide by capturing all the City Council and Town Board seats throughout the country. They also won all the Mayoral seats except the Mayoral seat in Punta Gorda Town. Almost one year after they defeated the People’s United Party in this election on February the 7th of 2008, they followed up by defeating the PUP and several other political parties in a General Election landslide by winning twenty-five seats out of a total of thirty-one.

The issues in those elections were; corruption, mismanagement of public funds, abuse of power and running Belize as if it was the personal estate of a few families, friends and cronies. It was such a bold and blatant act of abuse, that even members of the People’s United Party became so disgusted with their own party and voted them out of power. Since the United Democratic Party took over the reins of power in Belmopan, they discovered that the previous government abused power because of many governmental loopholes that existed at the time they were in power. Since then the UDP government have introduced several legislations, some constitutional reform measures and safeguards to prevent some of those incidents from occurring again.

The Belize UDP government was so bankrupt at the time they took office, that there was no money left with the government to carry out programs to benefit the Belizean people and the country’s International Credit Rating was low. Not only was it low but they had borrowed from almost every International Lending Institution in the world and was having problems paying their debts.

In Belize most Civil Servants working for the Treasury Department were being pressured by the Minister of Finance to turn in all their revenues as soon as they were collected to pay their past due bills. The new UDP government had to move quickly to re-negotiate all the outstanding loans owed by the previous government with several lending agencies to free up some money and improve Belize’s financial credibility in the international community with most international lenders. In the ten years that the People’s United Party was in power, they did so much damage to our country that no reasonable and sane person can expect the United Democratic Party (UDP) to remedy all these problems in one year. Our country is a long way from getting out of our financial mess. The problem in Belize is similar to the one the Democrats face here with the Republican Party and George Bush.

There is a global financial problem that we face today in addition with the financial problems our government inherited from the People’s United Party. Today most of the Industrialized Nations of the world like; the United States, Great Britain, Germany and Japan all are experiencing problems. These countries are far richer than our country Belize and they are struggling with remedies to cope with their financial crisis. The countries that are better off in the world lend money to the countries that are developing and worst off. With this crisis at their door steps, they cannot leave their countries problems to lend money and focus on other countries problem. Belize have a lot of potential and will survive this economic crisis because our population is not that
Karatekas Return Without Medals But With The Vice Presidency

The National Team that participated in the XIV Central American Karate Championship returned Monday March 2nd. The Championship was held Managua on the 28th of February and the 1st of March 2009.

The Accused, Carlos Vasquez, 21

BELIZEAN laborer of #32 George Price Avenue, Santa Elena. He was positively identified by the victim and was consequently arrested and formally charged the crime of maim. The accused appeared in before San Ignacio’s magistrate Kathlene Lewis on Monday, March 2 where, due to the nature of the crime, no plea was entertained. Police investigation led to the detention of Carlos Vasquez, 21.
I had lunch with two of my unmarried friends.
One is engaged, the other is a mistress, and of course I have been married for over 20 years.

We were chatting about our relationships and decided to amaze our partners by wearing a black leather bra, very high heels and a mask over our eyes. We agreed to meet in a few days to exchange notes. Here’s how it all went.

My engaged friend: “The other night when my boyfriend came over he found me with a black leather bra, very high heels and a mask over our eyes. He saw me and said, ‘You are the woman of my dreams. I love you’ and we made love all night long.

The mistress: Me too! The other night I met my lover at his office and I was wearing the black leather bra, very high heels and a mask over our eyes and a raincoat pulled over. When I opened the raincoat he didn’t say a word, but we had wild sex all night.

Then I shared my story: When my husband came home I was wearing the black leather bra, very high heels and a mask over our eyes. As soon as he came in the door and saw me he said, ‘What’s for dinner, Batman?’

SAN IGNACIO TOWN, Cayo, Wednesday, March 4, 2009:

Arden Garoy, 25, the accused mastermind behind the January 5, 2009 shooting death of Security Officer Josiah Thompson, was today formally arrested and charged for the following crime: Murder, Robbery, Attempt Murder, Maim, Two counts of kept unlicensed Firearm and 2 counts of kept unlicensed ammunition and the Use of deadly means of harm.

The case was adjourned until Thursday, April 16, 2009.
The Chess Column by David Coombs, Cayo Chess Coordinator

BY: David Coombs, Cayo Chess Coordinator

This week we will look at the checkmate puzzle in the diagram. When we learned about pawns I wrote that there were two other things to learn about pawns, one of them will be illustrated by the puzzle.

When a pawn reaches the opposite end of the board it can be promoted, this means that you can change it for another piece, when the pawn is moved it is promoted as part of the same move. Usually you change it for a queen but you can choose a rook, bishop or knight.

In the puzzle the solution is to move the pawn from f7 to f8 and promote to a knight.

This attacks the King on h7 (it puts the king in check) and there is no escape for the King. There is nothing that can capture the new Knight and the King is trapped by its own pieces so it is a 'checkmate' the game is finished.

This is the way the game of chess is won, when the king is attacked or put in 'check' it must be saved, if it cannot be saved it is checkmate, the game is finished, we do not actually capture the king, it should never leave the board. More about the king next week.

New information on pieces, the rook moves left or right, forward and back, any number of squares without jumping. The queen can move like a bishop or a rook and is the most powerful piece on the board. Now you know about all pieces apart from the king and two special moves.

NEW VACANCY

Medical Care Coordinator
Belize District
Social Security Board

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: March 16, 2009
ORGANIZATIONAL LEVEL: Above First Class Clerk
DUTY STATION: Belize City Branch Office
SUPERVISOR: Branch Manager

QUALIFICATIONS
Education:
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Skills:
- In-depth knowledge of the functions of SSB and of organizations service delivery infrastructure and their market segments we serve.
- In-depth knowledge of case management and continuum of care concepts and principles as they relate to chronic cases.
- Management competencies: Communication, Planning and Administration, Teamwork, Strategic Action, Strategy Execution, Monitoring and Evaluation.
- Global awareness. Self management. Effective Interpersonal skills, Ability to follow directions.
- Must be proficient in Computer Skills (MS Office, Excel, Word and Access or similar database program).
- General Management Skills, particularly leadership, coaching, organizing, controlling and decision making; time management and good written and verbal communication skills.
- Use of information to design individual patient care plans
- Proficient in English and Spanish

COMPETENCIES
Applicant must be:
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- A natural forward planner who critically assesses own performance
- Mature, credible, and comfortable in dealing with senior executives
- Reliable, tolerant, and determined
- Excellent communicator, able to see things from the other person’s point of view
- Keen for new experiences, responsibility and accountability
- Able to work with others in team based environment

RESPONSIBILITIES
- Assessing, planning, coordinating, organizing, implementing and evaluating specific diseases in order to facilitate the utilization of resources for patients to achieve high quality, cost effective outcomes.
- Evaluating and facilitating the appropriate utilization of facilities, services and levels of care to develop individualized plans of care based on patient needs and organizational protocols.
- Working with multidisciplinary staff, and participating in Quality Improvement processes related to the management of an assigned population.
- Function as an expert in standards of care to assure quality services.
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- Identify training needs of PCPs within the NHI program.
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Cayo District

Interviewees will be asked for:
- Originals of academic accreditation,
- Letters of recommendation, and other documents which may strengthen his / her application.
TWO ALLEGED ROBBERS EMERGED EMPTY HANDED AND BADLY BEATEN

building through a back door. Jonathan’s girlfriend, Miriam, reportedly sought refuge under a nearby table in an attempt to protect Chris’s and herself while the child’s mother, Sylvia, assisted in warding off the attackers.

The brawl continued for several minutes during which one of attackers reportedly tried to escape with Jonathan’s $3,000 laptop off a nearby desk. This was when Jonathan reportedly took hold of a pint bottle and hit him across the head with it causing the attacker to drop the computer.

The brothers continued administering beatings to the attackers first inside the restaurant and the beating continue outside as the attackers attempted to flee the scene. The immitation firearm retrieved from the scene of the crime

The imitation firearm retrieved from the scene of the crime

From Front Page

large and if we stick together as one big family we can feed, cloth and provide all the needs of our fellow Belizean brothers and sisters who are in need. With this problem that we are facing, now more than ever we need a government that demonstrate that they care about all of the Belizean people and not just some. Now that the United Democratic Party have won the municipal elections they can continue with their development programs to reconstruct Belize’s villages, towns and cities. They are now in control of the central and municipal governments. The people of Belize probably felt that this government was just handed to them about one year ago and that is not sufficient time for them to remedy all the damages done by the People’s United Party (PUP) in the last ten years. However, the members of the United Democratic Party (UDP) should try and analyze why many Belizeans did not come out and vote. If they fail to deliver in the next four years while they are in control of the two governments, the Belizean people could get angry and vote them out of power in the next General Election which will be held in the year 2013. As was mentioned earlier in all my previous articles, third parties and independent candidates have failed again to make a significant dent in the political system in Belize. Belizeans know that a third party and an independent candidate cannot do anything for them because Belize like most countries in the British Commonwealth have a centralized system of government, in which the party that controls the Central Government controls and distribute the wealth. These third parties need to do some nationwide grassroots organizing, in order to gain the people’s support to join their political parties and have a chance to win future elections. For the next three years, the people of Belize can now forget about elections and begin to focus on nationwide developmental projects to build our country Belize so that our people’s lives can improve.
Dear Voters Of San Ignacio & Santa Elena;

You came to the polls on Wednesday, March 4, 2009 and voted in free and fair elections. We salute you for exercising your right.

A very special Thank You is extended, especially to all those persons who voted for us. Thank you for placing your vote of confidence in us.

We also extend a heartfelt thank you to the many campaigners who, over the weeks leading up to election day, walked the streets as they went about spreading our team’s message and asking for your support. We also thank them for bringing out the voters on election day.

A special thank you is likewise extended to our three Area Representatives: Hon. Rene Montero, Cayo Central; Hon. Elvin Penner, Cayo North East and Hon. Salvador Fernandez, Cayo North, for the tremendous support they gave us throughout the election.

The political campaign is over and the real work must now begin. We pledge to work hard for the entire community in delivering the goods and services to EVERY single resident of San Ignacio and Santa Elena.

During the campaign we presented you with a manifesto outlining some of the projects we intend to undertake during this term in office. This manifesto will form the blueprint as we chart the way to continue the progress and development for the mutual benefit of all residents of our twin towns.

Prime Minister, Hon. Dean Barrow, has made a firm commitment to support the Council. We will therefore work very closely with Central Government and our Area Representatives to bring meaningful benefits for all the good people of San Ignacio and Santa Elena.

As we enter this new term in office, we are ever mindful that in three short years we might be coming back asking for your support. As with this campaign just past, we plan to come to you with a record of major achievements in fulfillment of our manifesto pledge to you.

Once again, Thank you for your support and may God Bless us all.

From: Mayor John Francis August Jr., And Your Six New Town Councillors!!!