

SPORTS

Camp continues to inspire in Governor's Harbour

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Thirty campers in Governor's Harbour, Eleuthera benefited from the second annual Project Cay Camp held this past week.

For the second consecutive year professional basketball player and national team member, Jaraun "Kino" Burrows paid a special visit to the camp in an effort to give back to that community. The camp has been hosted by the Chrone family, who reside in New Providence but are former residents to the island.

Burrows, who also hails from Eleuthera, was particularly excited to have the chance to get reacquainted with kids on the island.

"I was asked by them (Chrone family) through a friend of mine, my trainer, that they needed somebody to come to Eleuthera and do the sports program during the third or fourth week of July," Burrows disclosed, "Seeing that my entire family is from Governor's Harbour on my father's side... I've always wanted to come back and give back to the Governor's Harbour area and the entire Eleuthera. I felt this was a wonderful time to come back and spend some time with the kids."

The France LNB Pro A League standout acknowledged that he could identify with the campers and what it's like to grow up on the island of Eleuthera. He furthered that he was simply happy to be able to spend some time with the campers before he reported for duty back in France.

"It's wonderful for me before I head back to France to give back to these young kids. It's just great to be able to mix and mingle with some of the locals here. They all have such great history on me and my family and a lot of them know me from when I was a baby. So being home in Governor's Harbour on Cupid's Cay is unbelievable."

Although it's only his second year being a big part of the yearly camp, Burrows noted that there is a lot of potential for the camp to expand and once the kids take advantage, the possibilities will be endless.

"Basketball is such a global sport and there so many opportunities involved. With the camps and the clinics you're going to have some that go off and play high school and college ball. But a lot of the other ones who come to this get disciplined, get the structure and team bonding and the options to do things with other kids that they wouldn't normally get in certain environments."

"A lot of these kids come from tough backgrounds. I could never give what the game gave me but I could give these kids all I have," he concluded.

Earlier this month, Burrows reached an agreement on a contract extension with his Fos-Sue-Mur Provence Basketball Byers.

In his first full season with the club, Burrows averaged 13.9 points on 61.5 percent shooting from the field and 5.1 rebounds in just over 25 minutes per game.



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~ Jaraun "Kino" Burrows
 France LNB Pro A League player

Grand Bahama Development Fund to propel island's sports program

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The Government of The Bahamas will in the immediate future begin crafting, along with the Grand Bahama Port Authority (GBPA), a document that will define the Grand Bahama Development Fund (GBDF). Prime Minister (PM) Perry Christie disclosed as much on Monday.

"The MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) also provides a commitment to social and infrastructure investments in Grand Bahama that will deliver tangible contributions to the quality of life for the residents of Freeport. While individual investment projects can be very helpful, too often we pursue dis-

parate projects that do not reinforce our broader development agenda. To that end, subsequent to signing the MOU we intend to seek to work with the GBPA to create an ongoing 'Grand Bahama Development Fund,' which would make investments that can help to carry Grand Bahama forward." So said the PM in part, during a compelling presentation that related directly to Grand Bahama.

The idea of a development fund is a good one but the suggestion here is that it be broadened far beyond the scope of sporting facilities. Private independent development programs such as HOYTES (Helping Our Youth Through Education

and Sports), the Grand Bahama Sports Scholar/Athlete Awards initiative, the Grand Bahama Sports Promotion Association, the Mychal Thompson Foundation, the Tabernacle Invitational Tournament, the YMCA pro-



gram and such of the ilk should be included in the mix.

Yes, they should definitely be a focus also, of the GBDF. They all in an appreciable way contribute to the development of nation builders of the future

through their various sporting initiatives. The GBDF should certainly not be one-sided, geared primarily to help the government with sporting facilities.

The "refurbishing and expanding of athletic facilities" as heralded by Prime Minister Christie in his landmark Memorandum of Understanding (Government of The Bahamas/Grand Bahama Port Authority) announcement on Monday in the House of Assembly, ought to be prioritized but should not be the end of all of the GBDF.

Actually, the GBPA would certainly relate to the GBDF. Through the years, investment patriarchs Edward St. George

and Sir Jack Hayward were active in fostering sporting programs and events. The GBDF in essence would simply be continuity by those who carry on for the aforementioned iconic figures in Grand Bahama history.

It is good to know that although the Christie Government is focused on the GBPA strengthening the economy of Grand Bahama, the island's sports family has not been forgotten. The view here is that generally with his House of Assembly presentation, Christie certainly got a bump in likability in Grand Bahama.

•To respond to this column, kindly contact Fred Sturup at sturup1504@gmail.com