



Media Coverage

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The Barbados Advocate

Harris to helm Barbados Football Association

By Michael Phillips

THE winds of change have blown, and a new sheriff is in town as head of the Barbados Football Association. Former BFA General Secretary Randy Harris is stepping up to the position which he was so narrowly beaten to in September of 2004 by outgoing president Ronald Jones.

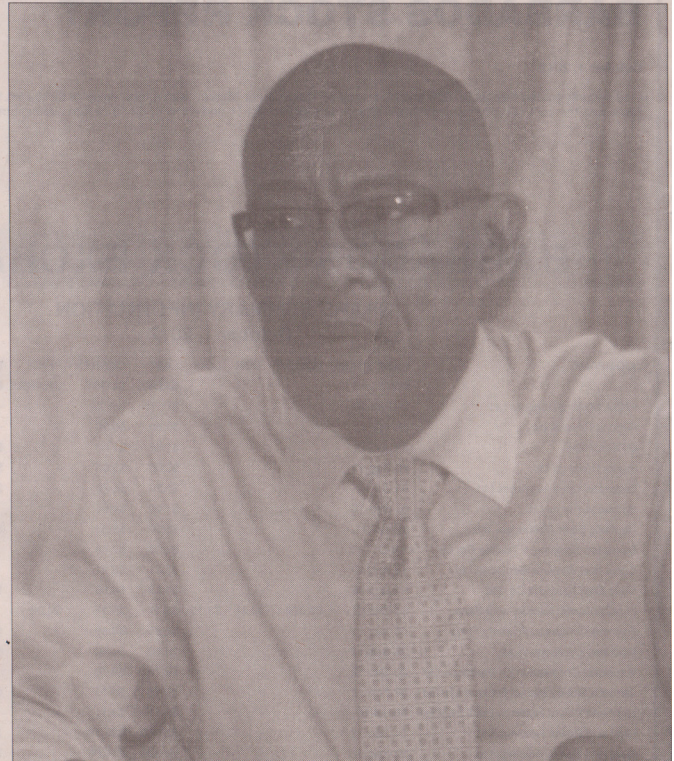
After a last minute decision to join the race for the presidency of the island's governing body for football, Harris beat all competitors and resoundingly so. Amassing a total of 74 votes, Harris made short work of the other suitors, of which his closest rival was Charles Harris who secured 48 votes at the ballots.

After deciding only late

Saturday evening to throw his name in the hat due to what he described as prodding by many who saw him as the person to help football through these dark times, Harris came out with the win and is now charged with steering Barbados through uncharted waters which sees the national team at their lowest ever ranking. Speaking to the Barbados Advocate yesterday, Harris admitted that despite his earlier reservations, he was pleased with the win and attributes it to his knowledge on the ground of the sport and his relations with the clubs. "We have been quietly talking with the clubs about our vision for the future of football in Barbados and we had a good team of persons who were able to articulate the

needs of the association and how we would tackle them," he explained.

With a plan to hit the ground running, Harris has already outlined his course of action to see Barbados football out of the doldrums. Hoping to forge an alliance with the Brewster's Trust, which is known for its expertise in youth development programmes, Harris stated that developing grass roots football and revamping of the premier leagues were among the first issues to be tackled. "There are two main things that need immediate attention and one is a development programme in different age groups up to the senior level and then there is the matter of our premier league competition, which really should be a money earner for the association," he said.



Newly elected President of the Barbados Football Association, Randy Harris has his sights set on bringing Barbados football back to a position of respect internationally.

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