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Carnival 73 Has Its Prince and Pancho!



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Nvidia reinstates Huang as CEO after Trump intervention

New York, United States

Nvidia on Monday reinstated Jensen Huang as chief executive in a stunning reversal that President Donald Trump said followed his own direct contacts with the company's board.

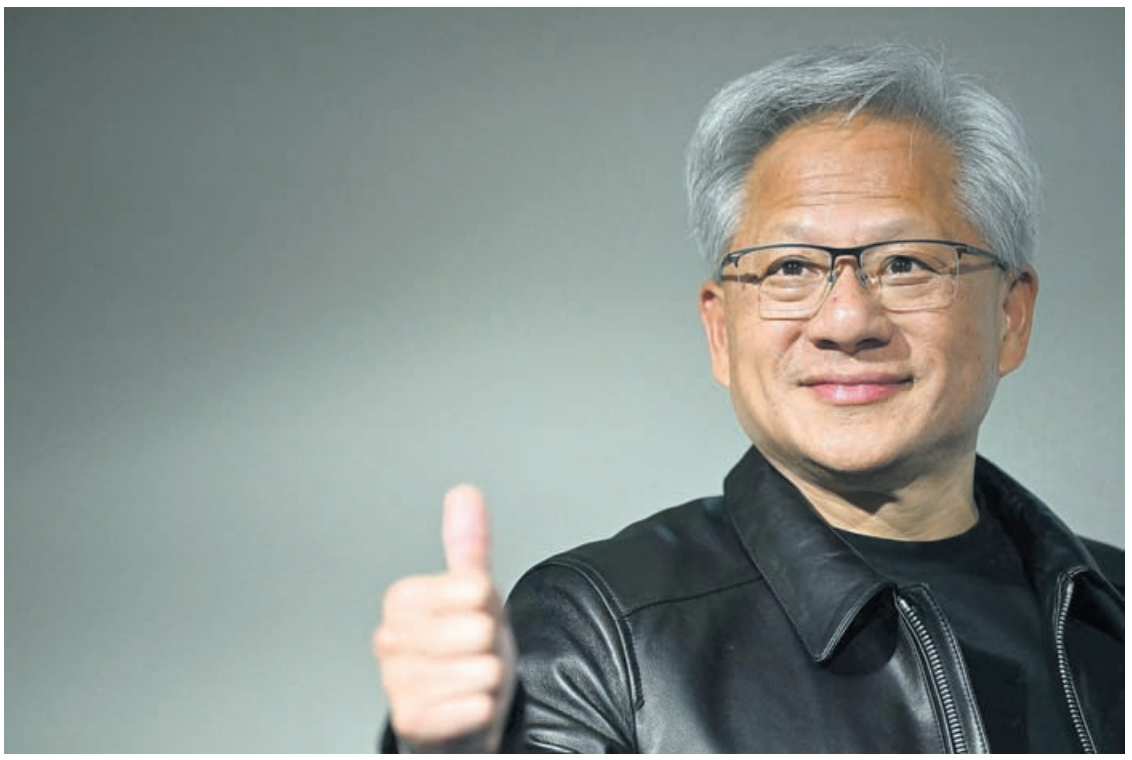
Huang resigned two weeks ago over an affair with a woman whom U.S. intelligence agencies suspect of spying for China, a departure that sent Wall Street tumbling and stoked fears for a U.S. economy reliant on the AI investment boom.

U.S. stocks bounced early Monday after the news emerged, with Nvidia soaring about 35 percent and the tech-heavy Nasdaq up around 7 percent.

Trump, who had publicly urged Nvidia to rehire Huang, welcomed the move as a "correct and proper decision." "I've been speaking to the board directly and indirectly, and I felt very strongly about it," he told U.S. broadcaster CNBC.

"The board was placed in a very bad position. I think the board acted really responsibly."

The board voted unanimously to bring Huang back as president, chief executive and board member, effective immediately, after a series of meetings left directors satisfied with his "candor and ability to lead," the company said in a statement.



Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang gives a thumbs up at a press conference with Japanese multinational information and communications technology company Fujitsu in Tokyo on July 16, 2026.

It said input from "senior levels" of the U.S. government had left it confident that his return posed no national security risk, but did not name the officials or say what they told the board.

Board chair Harvey Jones said directors believe Huang "is the right person to lead Nvidia" and that his return serves the interests of shareholders, employees, partners and customers.

Jones will remain chair, and chief financial officer Colette Kress, who served as interim CEO, will continue as CFO.

- 'Back to work' -

"I take this responsibility with the greatest humility and renewed commitment," Huang said in the statement, thanking the board, staff, shareholders and his family.

"I can't wait to get back to work."

Huang had offered to return after stepping down, but Jones told investors on an earnings call last week that directors had unanimously accepted his resignation and did "not intend to reinstate Jensen as CEO."

His comeback followed a campaign by Silicon Valley figures including Elon Musk, while thousands of current and former Nvidia employees signed an open letter calling for his reinstatement.

On Friday, Trump described Huang as "one of the truly most brilliant minds in the world" and said he would "love to see Jensen be given a second chance."

Huang has developed a close relationship with Trump since the president returned to the White House, making frequent visits to Washington, joining him on foreign trips and negotiating directly with the administration over chip exports to China.

Nvidia was also among the largest donors to Trump's White House ballroom project, contributing $25 million, according to a donor list published by The Washington Post last month.

- Secrets passed to Beijing? -

Huang, 63, stepped down after reports that he had a relationship with Alice Huang -- no relation -- a former executive at Singapore-based Megaspeed, a company that bought billions of dollars' worth of Nvidia chips.

US intelligence services reportedly concluded she passed information to Beijing, which has denied the allegations.

Nvidia said a committee of independent directors set up earlier this month to investigate whether Huang was targeted by a foreign intelligence effort will see its probe through to the end, and that Huang has committed to cooperating.

Huang is due to face three House committees behind closed doors on December 1 over national security concerns.

The scandal exposed divisions within the administration over Huang and China, with hawks accusing the Commerce Department of being too close to Nvidia and failing to police its chip sales to Beijing.❑

Pentagon moves to restrict U.S.-Canada defense ties: report



U.S. Secretary of War Pete Hegseth (L) speaks with Ultimate Fighting Championship CEO Dana White (2nd-L) during a reception held at the new helipad on the South Lawn of the White House on November 20, 2026 in Washington, DC.

Washington, United States

U.S. Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth has imposed new restrictions on military cooperation with Canada, according to U.S. media, as the Pentagon said Saturday it was refocusing the relationship around American defense priorities.

Hegseth issued the directive in a classified memo circulated last week, The Washington Post reported Friday, citing officials familiar with the decision.

The precise scope of the restrictions was unclear, and the Post said it had not seen the memo.

"The Department of War is taking steps to ensure its engagements with Canada advance tangible US defense objectives and ultimately support a reinvigorated defense relationship," chief Pentagon spokesman Sean Parnell told AFP, when asked to comment on the report.

He said Washington was "prioritizing opportunities for bilateral cooperation" to strengthen the defense of the Americas, "while supporting Canada's ability to meet NATO obligations."

The Trump administration has devoted considerable military and diplomatic resources over the past year to fighting drug trafficking in Latin America, and has also consistently complained of NATO allies not spending enough on defense.

"This guidance does not impact defense intelligence cooperation, our binational NORAD command, or our cooperation through NATO," Parnell added.

NORAD is the joint US-Canadian command responsible for monitoring and defending North American airspace.

The reported restrictions come amid strained relations between the longtime allies under President Donald Trump, who has repeatedly suggested Canada should become the 51st U.S. state.

Trump has imposed tariffs on Canadian goods and criticized Ottawa's defense spending, while Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney has firmly rejected any suggestion of annexation.

Canada's Ministry of National Defence, when reached for comment on the Washington Post report, said in a statement that it "would not speculate on media reports of this nature."❑

JFK anniversary draws history buffs to movie theater where Oswald was arrested

Dallas, United States

Every November 22, Duncan McQueen visits the Texas Theatre as part of his pilgrimage to sites associated with the assassination of president John F. Kennedy in Dallas.

But he never manages to sit in its most famous seat: the one occupied by assassin Lee Harvey Oswald when police arrested him.

"Every time I'm here too late, there's always somebody sitting there," he told AFP.

Located in Dallas's bohemian Oak Cliff neighborhood, the Texas Theatre became entwined with the tragedy through the highly publicized arrest, which took place shortly after the presidential motorcade came under fire a few miles away.

It embraces that connection by organizing "JFK Day," a time capsule marking the somber anniversary.

"That day... we do sort of lean into what happened here and commemorate it," Barak Epstein, who runs the Texas Theatre, told AFP.

In an effort to preserve this piece of American and film history, the theater screens the only surviving fragment of "War Is Hell," along with "Cry of Battle" -- the two movies showing that day, which might otherwise have been forgotten had they not been immortalized in photographs and video footage.



Moviegoers purchase tickets for a screening of "War Is Hell" at The Texas Theatre in Dallas, Texas, on November 22, 2026, marking the 63rd anniversary of President John F. Kennedy's assassination.

The double feature begins at 1:20 pm (1920 GMT), a few minutes before Oswald entered the theater to hide.

It is preceded by a video in which Johnny Brewer, the man who told police where Oswald was in 1963, warns the audience about the risks of entering without paying.

- 'Much more real' -

The Texas Theatre, which dates to 1931, is an essential stop on tours retracing the day that shook the nation.

It is a few kilometers from Elm Street, where two white X marks on the asphalt indicate where Kennedy was shot, and where dozens of people gathered Sunday to pay tribute on the 63rd anniversary of his death.

The historic building has undergone several alterations, Epstein explained during a tour of its two auditoriums.

Epstein said that, "in theoretical terms," both the second and fifth seats in row S have been identified as Oswald's based on photographs from that day.

But seat number five seems to have claimed that status among history buffs.

"It's symbolic," said Richard Pruett, who was waiting with his son to enter before the doors opened.

"It's a strange feeling because it makes it seem so much more real," Pruett said.

"You no longer have to rely on your imagination so much."

Pruett praised the theater's preservation after years of challenges posed by the growth of streaming, the pandemic and competition from major movie theater chains.

- Silver screen history -

"Today we're seeing this -- the same movie that Oswald was watching at the time he was arrested -- and... it's going to be airing at the same time as it did 63 years ago," he said.

"Most remarkably at the same price that it was airing 63 years ago," he added.

Tickets cost 90 cents, as they did in 1963, and visitors buy them at the original box office at the front of the building, just as audiences did then.

The Texas Theatre features in films such as Oliver Stone's "JFK." Stone sat in the same seat during a screening of his film on the anniversary in 2024.❑

Democrats win largest U.S. House majority since 1992: media

Washington, United States

Democrats have won the largest majority in the U.S. House of Representatives in more than three decades, after Chuck Hubbard defeated Republican representative Virginia Foxx in North Carolina, U.S. media projected on Sunday.

The party won full control of both the House and Senate in a sweeping midterm rout with a landslide of upsets that delivered a crushing rebuke of President Donald Trump and his Republican Party.

CBS News and NBC News projected Hubbard's win on Sunday, securing the Democrats a 258th seat in Congress' 435-member House.

The majority is the largest won by either party since 1992, when Bill Clinton won the presidency and Democrats won a total of 258 seats.

It also beats the 257 seats won when Barack Obama was elected president in 2008 but falls short of the 334-seat majority the party won at the end of the 1930s, which is the largest on record.

Republicans have not controlled more than 250 House seats since the start of the Great Depression which saw mass unemployment, acute deflation and widespread poverty.

"House Democrats have just secured the largest majority any party in Congress has held this century. BOOM," House Democratic leader Hakeem Jeffries said in a post on X.

The 56-year-old New Yorker is poised to to become the first Black speaker of the House, after being nominated by his party.

Sunday's result came after Foxx requested a recount.

Hubbard said Sunday that he had spoken with Foxx, who "graciously conceded following the results of the recount process."

"Let me be the first to thank Congresswoman Foxx for her decades of service and countless sacrifices," he added on X.

Roy Cooper, the state's former governor, won election to the Senate, becoming the first Democrat elected to the Senate from North Carolina since 2008.

Four other House races remain outstanding: one each in Minnesota and Tennessee and two in Louisiana that are heading to a December runoff.



Rep.-elect Kristina Knickerbocker (D-OH) (C) poses for a photo with other congressional freshmen of the 120th Congress for a group photograph on the steps of the House of Representatives of the U.S. Capitol Building on November 12, 2026 in Washington, DC.

The Democrats midterm triumph hands the party the power to block Trump's agenda and investigate alleged corruption for the last two years of his presidency.❑

Adam Driver, Scarlett Johansson star in New York family crime drama 'Paper Tiger'

Los Angeles, United States
Set in gritty 1980s New York, "Paper Tiger" starring Adam Driver, Miles Teller and Scarlett Johansson is a crime thriller with a personal twist -- it doubles as a family drama based on the teenage memories of filmmaker James Gray.
The film sees the wealthy former police officer Gary Pearl (Driver) convince his more middle-class engineer brother Irwin (Teller) to embark on a business proposition that turns dire.
The business partners, it turns out, are linked to the Russian mob, and the ensuing violence and web of lies begins driving a wedge between the brothers as well as Teller's character and his wife, played by Johansson.
Much of the bleak story is rooted in Gray's own family history: his father faced legal troubles and was ultimately convicted of a crime.
The filmmaker told AFP he aimed to remain faithful to the real-life events, but did take certain narrative liberties -- a strategy that presented its own set of challenges.

"Sometimes when you're close to something or somebody, it becomes difficult. Your perception is clouded. Your idea of objectivity, which is a ridiculous notion anyway, becomes almost impossible," the director and screenwriter said.
But he said he tries to be as honest as possible.
Gray -- who also explored autobiographical themes in the coming-of-age story "Armageddon Time" (2022) -- said the film is fundamentally about parents and their children.



U.S. actor Miles Teller, U.S. writer/director James Gray and US actor Adam Driver attend the Los Angeles premiere of "Paper Tiger" at Samuel Goldwyn Theater in Beverly Hills, California on November 5, 2026.

That shift in storytelling focus "comes, frankly, from the fact that I'm older," Gray said with a smile.
The 57-year-old is a father of three, and said he's constantly asking himself if "I am screwing up as a parent."
"What does trouble me is not knowing what mistakes I'm making as I'm making them in real time," Gray said.
"That's a very good dramatic idea for a story, but it also happens to be the narrative of our lives."

- Familial set
Driver praised the director's meticulous attention to detail, a laser focus evident in everything from filming technique to choice of locations and costumes.
The movie was made with old-school technology, including tungsten lights, celluloid film and vintage lenses, the actor explained at a press event.
And although the plot was drawn from Gray's own personal life, Driver said he felt he could get in character without digging into the story's every detail.
"It was mostly about, you know, making sure that I believed what I was saying," Driver said. "And I let him be the barometer of, if that felt right or it didn't, or if it felt truthful to him."
It's not Driver's first time working with Johannson: both earned Oscar nominations for their work in Noah Baumbach's "Marriage Story," a portrayal of a couple going through a grueling divorce.

For Teller, who plays a version of Gray's father in "Paper Tiger," the filmmaking process offered a way to "get to know James as a person better."
"James and I would talk about nobility a lot, and this was a very proud family, it was a very noble family," Teller told journalists.
He said there was an intimate, familial tone on set from day one, including in the house in New York's borough of Queens where they shot.
"It really did just feel like the Pearl family home," Teller said.❑

Athens Acropolis museum reopens after $11M revamp



Visitors take selfies with the Acropolis in the background in Athens on November 23, 2026.

Athens, Greece
Greek authorities on Monday reopened a historic museum on the ancient Acropolis of Athens, prompting the country's leader to repeat a demand for Britain to return prized classical sculptures it says were looted from the site.
Built from the late 19th century, the Old Acropolis Museum, a few meters (yards) away from the Parthenon temple, closed in 2007 and the site's main treasures were transferred to a bigger site nearby.
That museum, opened in 2009, symbolically included a space for the Parthenon sculptures, which Greece maintains were looted in 1802 by a British diplomat.
The earlier site, the Old Acropolis Museum, reopened its doors on Monday after a 10-million-euro ($11 million) renovation, displaying precious works that have been brought out of storage.
Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis used a visit to the refurbished museum to make a pointed new demand for the return of the ancient sculptures.
"As we reopen the gates of the Old Acropolis Museum, just a few meters from the iconic Parthenon, our thoughts inevitably turn to what is missing," he said.
"The return and reunification of the Parthenon sculptures remains firmly our great and non-negotiable national goal."
Athens has for decades been demanding the return of the sculptures -- sometimes known in Britain as the "Elgin marbles", after the lord who Greece accuses of looting them.
Mitsotakis has said they could be an issue in any talks on Britain renewing its ties to the European Union.

- 'New chapter' -
The Old Acropolis Museum was the first museum to house antiquities from the iconic site of western civilization dating back to the 5th century BC.
"A new chapter is opening for the Acropolis of Athens with the reopening of the Old Acropolis Museum," Culture Minister Lina Mendoni said at the inauguration.
The "historic museum", she added, was "inextricably linked to the history of Greek archaeology and excavations on the Sacred Rock".
She said it would now have a new role as "a space for archaeological knowledge and contemporary cultural dialogue".
The first part of the museum features a permanent exhibition of sculptures which had been kept in storage and are presented to the public for the first time.
The second part has 750 restored archaeological objects from the city of Athens. ❑

Just believe? Manifestation gains huge online following



Kiko Quishenberry, 27, works on her journal and practices manifestation by writing down her intentions and sending them out into the universe, hoping they will come true, in Los Angeles, California, on Ocotber 26, 2026.

Los Angeles, United States
At 28, Nas Hexxin has much of what she's always wanted: a husband, a successful photography career and enough money for a down payment on a house.
And she's convinced she owes it to the powers of manifestation.
"I feel like anything I wanted, I've gotten," Hexxin, who lives in Los Angeles, told AFP.
Manifesting -- the notion that thoughts and intentions can shape reality -- has surged in popularity in recent years, a cultural phenomenon amplified by social media.
To find her husband, Hexxin wrote a list of desires: "Creative, brown hair -- curly brown hair -- light eyes," she said.
Then she met Sean, the man of her dreams.
Now the couple makes a new vision board every year. "Everything has come true" on last year's board, she said, even an earnings goal that Hexxin admitted seemed "a little ridiculous."

The idea is simple: focus on what you want, picture it as though it has already happened, and trust that the universe will help bring it about.
The concept can be traced back to ancient Hindu, Greek and Egyptian beliefs.
Its popularity in modern times stems from the 2006 bestseller "The Secret," by Rhonda Byrne.
The secret, according to the book, is the "law of attraction" -- that positive thoughts can draw wealth, health and love into people's lives.
The self-help guide sold more than 30 million copies in the following two decades.
Today the concept has found enormous life online: Google searches for "manifesting" jumped more than 600 percent in early 2020, and the Cambridge Dictionary named it word of the year in 2024.
On TikTok alone, more than 110 million posts explain how to manifest the life you want, be it a dream job, a relationship, or a million dollars.

- 'Something bigger' -
Younger generations, who were less likely to have grown up with organized religion, are particularly taken with manifestation's promises.
More than half of Gen Z Americans have turned to spirituality or manifestation to feel more in control of their future, according to a Harris Poll released in September.
Meanwhile, nearly half of 18- to 24-year-olds in the United States have no religious affiliation.
One of manifesting's core techniques, visualization, is also a staple of elite sport.
Athletes have relied on the technique for decades, said Emily vanSonnenberg, a positive psychology lecturer who believes strongly in manifesting.
Yet wishing for something is not the same as getting it, explained Gabriele Oettingen, a psychology professor at New York University.
Her research shows that the more people fantasize about a goal, the less they do to reach it.
In one of her studies, dieters who pictured success most vividly ended up losing the least weight.
"Life has a lot of hurdles and a lot of obstacles, and just thinking that things will happen is simply not enough," Oettingen told AFP.
"If manifestation worked, it would be great, because then we would be in paradise," she added.
"But we are not in paradise."

- 'Magical thinking' -
Not surprisingly, the promises of manifestation have become big business.
Coaches sell everything from $20 audio recordings to exclusive, $1-million one-on-one programs on how to "have it all."
Danielle Ryan, a 34-year-old Canadian YouTuber, went from following coaches to working as one herself -- until she noticed who was actually getting rich.
"All the people that are saying, 'I can teach you how to manifest $10,000' made $10,000 by teaching you how to do that," she told AFP.
And people committed to manifesting can fall short, and often blame themselves.❑

Gisele Pelicot 'shocked' after publisher uses nude images in book campaign



French author and survivor of sexual violence Gisele Pelicot flanked by Nice's deputy mayor Zara Boutayeb speaks during a ceremony marking the laying of the foundation stone for the Women's House (Maison des Femmes) at Villa Paradisio in the French Riviera city of Nice on November 23, 2026.

Paris, France
Gisele Pelicot said on Monday she was "deeply shocked" that nude photographs of her had been used without her consent to promote a psychoanalyst's essay on the concept of coercive control.
Pelicot, 73, became a global icon in the fight against sexual violence in 2024 during the trial that saw her former husband convicted of drugging and raping her, as well as recruiting 49 other men to rape her while unconscious.
"I am deeply shocked that images from the most intimate part of my private life are being displayed and exploited for commercial purposes," Pelicot told broadcaster BFMTV. "I refuse to let my privacy become an advertising tool."
She said she would pursue legal action against Tinbad publishing house and the author.
"Today I find myself once again humiliated, exposed and hurt," she said. "As if the ordeal of the trial had not been enough."
To promote an essay titled "Emprises, les impasses d'une success story (Forms of Control: The Pitfalls of a Success Story), Tinbad sent some media nude photographs and graphic videos of Pelicot that her husband had taken, according to French weekly Le Canard Enchaine.

AFP did not receive a copy of the book, written by psychoanalyst Sabine Prokhoris, nor any of its promotional materials.
Tinbad apologised, describing the episode as an "unfortunate communication error".
The publisher maintained that it had not sent "any images of rape or any pornographic videos" to the press, while not denying that nude photographs had been distributed.
Prokhoris said she placed "full responsibility" for the "inappropriate" promotional campaign on her publisher.
She said that her book's subject was "not the so-called Pelicot affair but a critical examination of the notion of psychological control and domination".
According to the book's back-cover blurb, the essay calls for readers to "think freely" about the notion of coercive control, described as "a cornerstone of #MeToo orthodoxy".
"These psychological situations, fundamentally ambiguous in nature, involve each of the parties in an equally responsible, though not symmetrical, way," it said.
Tinbad said that no further print runs of the book would be produced beyond the 280 copies already in circulation.❑

Burnham to ignore 'stuck in the past' ex-PMs as he hails UK's EU reset

London, United Kingdom

UK Prime Minister Andy Burnham accused predecessors who have warned him against reigniting the Brexit debate of being "stuck in the past", as he trumpeted his EU reset deal on Monday.

Burnham has in recent weeks smashed a consensus that Britain's acrimonious departure from the European Union was done and dusted, floating the possibility that Britain could apply to rejoin.

Britain narrowly voted to leave the 27-member bloc in 2016. Now pro-Brexit voices are reorganising to prepare for likely looming battles over Britain's long-term relationship with the EU, as Burnham vows to pursue closer ties.

In recent days, former Conservative prime ministers Rishi Sunak, Theresa May, David Cameron and Boris Johnson have all urged Labour leader Burnham not to reopen old wounds.

"Those who say we shouldn't talk about Brexit risk leaving Britain stuck in the past with a substandard set of arrangements," Burnham told parliament.

"Instead, we are putting Britain back on a better path and bringing back the hope that has been missing for too long," he added in a speech about the UK-EU deals signed in Brussels last Friday.



A handout photograph released by the UK Parliament's House of Commons shows Britain's Prime Minister Andy Burnham making a statement regarding the UK-EU summit, in the House of Commons, central London, on November 23, 2026.

Burnham and the EU's top officials sealed agreements to ease trade and youth mobility, although they kicked down the road tricky disagreements over British university fees for EU students.

- 'Stuck' -

The UK government argues the deals will eventually add £17 billion ($22 billion) to Britain's economy per year, easing cost-of-living pressures and providing opportunities for young people.

They mean there is a "very real prospect that the next decade can be a much better one for Britain than the one we have just lived through", Burnham told MPs.

Earlier, Burnham told broadcasters that he "won't be listening to those voices who put us here in the first place".

"They're stuck in the past because they can't face up to the bad deal that they did," he said.

Sunak, premier from 2022 to 2024, told Sky News that restarting the "divisive" Brexit debate would become an "all-consuming" distraction for Burnham's government.

In an interview with the BBC, May -- whose 2016 to 2019 tenure was dominated by her failure to pass a Brexit deal -- urged Burnham to "accept Brexit and move on".

This echoed warnings from Cameron, who called the referendum and resigned following the result, and Johnson, who then took Britain out of the bloc in early 2020.

The comments evoked the so-called Brexit wars that dominated political discourse for years following the narrow vote.

Nigel Farage, the leader of the anti-EU Reform UK party, said Monday that "going backwards into the EU's orbit would be a disaster for the very British businesses that are trying to compete and innovate".

- 'Europe could change' -

Conservative opposition leader Kemi Badenoch meanwhile accused Burnham of "trying to take Britain back to 2015 instead of focusing on the future".

Burnham has previously said he would like to see Britain rejoin the EU in his lifetime but has not taken a formal position since kick-starting a "national conversation" on Britain's future long-term relationship with the bloc.

He told parliament that British and EU negotiators would engage in an "informal exchange of ideas" about possible options, with the "results to be presented around the time of the next UK-EU summit", expected in 12 months.

Burnham has said the British public will be "the boss" over the future relationship, but has not said whether this means another referendum.❑



Britain's Catherine, Princess of Wales talks with Claire Lorente, who was marking her last day of breast cancer treatment, during a visit the Christie NHS Foundation Trust, south Manchester in north-west England on June 4, 2026.

England launches world's largest AI-aided breast cancer screening trial

London, United Kingdom

England's state-run health service said Monday it has launched the world's largest AI-assisted breast cancer screening trial, which is set to involve nearly 700,000 women over the next three years.

The National Health Service (NHS) hailed the new trial as having the potential to transform breast cancer diagnosis, as it announced hundreds of women had been invited to take part at the outset.

The £10 million ($13 million) program will assess if tools assisted by artificial intelligence can help improve early cancer detection in screening, which health officials hope will then free up specialist clinicians' time.

The AI-assisted reading tool will assist clinicians in reviewing images collected from routine mammograms, according to the NHS.

"This is the biggest AI breast cancer trial in the world," Health Secretary Yvette Cooper said in a statement, lauding the tech's "huge potential" while pledging "proper safeguards" to ensure safety and effectiveness.

"If successful, this technology could help women get a breast cancer diagnosis and start treatment much more quickly, giving them the best possible chance of recovery."

The trial is being led by the University of Warwick, the University of Cambridge and Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, working closely with NHS England.

Women attending routine breast screening at 30 planned sites nationwide will be given details about the trial and participate, unless they choose to opt out.

The NHS stressed screening appointments will proceed as normal, but the AI-assisted tool will be used alongside specialists checking the images to look for cancers that are too small to see or feel.

The trial will test whether AI-assisted tools could allow most images to be reviewed by only one specialist, rather than the current two.

Recruitment has started at Cambridge University Hospitals, in eastern England, with more of the 30 selected sites opening in the coming months.❑

Planning on visiting Aruba? Make sure you have your ED card!

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to any country, it's important to make sure you have the right documents with you. For Aruba, one document that always seems to confuse people is the ED card. Scammers have taken advantage of the confusion, with dozen of fake and identical website overcharging visitors. To avoid this happening to you, here's a brief guide on how to obtain the ED card the right way: What website to use and how much it actually costs.



The Embarkation/ Disembarkation (ED) card is a pre-registration form required to enter Aruba. The ED Card has been in a requirement for visitors for decades and in 2020 it was digitalized. In 2024, the government of Aruba implemented a sustainability fee for all visitors of the island, which include a $20 contribution for the improvement, updating and maintenance of the local waste water plant.

First things first, make sure you have the right website. The official website for the ED card is www.edcardaruba.aw. It is important to note that there are NO alternatives for this website; this website is the ONLY way you can obtain an official ED card. Other website that may look similar are not official and may possibly be a scam. Be careful not to fall for the trap!

Next up, make sure you have the right information with you when you apply for an ED card. You should have on hand:

1. A valid passport
2. Personal details
3. Contact information
4. Travel information
5. A valid credit card (Visa, Mastercard or Discover)

We mentioned a $20 contribution mandatory for every visitor. Keep in mind that this is a YEARLY fee; so if you plan on visiting Aruba more than once this calendar year, you would only have to pay the first time around.

Other important info

We should clarify that the ED card is not a substitute for a visa. Visitors who need a visa for Aruba must apply for both a visa and an online ED card. You can also start applying for the ED card 6 days before your flight.

If you extend your trip, you don't have to reapply for or edit your ED card. However, you must reapply if you missed your flight and/or your flight got canceled and your traveling to the island on another flight.

For more info, visit the official website for ED card of contact the immigration office of Aruba at (+297) 523 7404 or email them at info@dga.aw❑

Create museum memories with the entire family!

Museums are an integral part of conserving and honoring cultures, and Aruba is no exception. Our Island has a wide selection of various museums for our locals and visitors to see. Take this opportunity to learn about our island and experience a different day beyond the beach. Let us introduce to you to these locations.

Museum of Industry Aruba

The Museum of Industry in located in San Nicolas. This museum presents the history of gold, aloe, phosphate, oil and tourism through elaborated displays and multimedia installations.



The Museum of Industry is situated in the Water Tower and narrates Aruba's industrial history which began in the 19th century. The Water Tower was built in 1939 and consists of three sections: the substructure, the high-rising vertical shaft, and the tank at the top. The Water Tower was purchased by the Monuments fund in 2003 so it could be restored and preserved as one of Aruba's monuments. The Museum of Industry is part of Aruban Museum Foundation (FMA), which is a foundation that maintains, preserves, and protects the Aruban cultural sector, history, and nature. The museum of Industry is open daily from 9 am till 6 pm.

For more information check out their Facebook page: Museum of Industry Aruba.

Archaeological Museum of Aruba

The Archaeological Museum of Aruba is located at Schelpstraat 42 in downtown Oranjestad. The renovated historic Ecury complex in downtown Oranjestad has been transformed from a family home to a modern museum that preserves Aruba's Amerindian cultural heritage. This 21st century museum is especially designed to preserve valuable artifacts dating back to the Pre-Ceramic period of 2500 BC.

In the late 1980's AMA identified its need for an adequate housing for its collection and activities. After studying various options, a project proposal was drawn up, including the acquisition and restoration of historical buildings in downtown Oranjestad.

These historical buildings were formerly the property of the Ecury family. The "Ecury Complex", is a cluster of single and two-story historic buildings, mainly Dutch colonial architecture from the late 19th and 20th century on a plot of approximately 1,700 m2.

In 1997 the Aruban Government bought the complex for the National Archaeological Museum project. In 2004 a financial agreement was signed with the European Development Fund and in 2006 restoration and construction work began on the monumental buildings and the new to build exhibition space. In December 2007 the key to the complex was delivered and the museum's employees moved to the new location. The final design for the exhibit was completed in November 2007 and the permanent exhibit, financed by the Aruban Government and the Union of Cultural Organizations (UNOCA), opened in July 2009.

At the new location the National Archaeological Museum Aruba uses approximately 500 m2 for its permanent exhibit. This exhibit showcases archaeological objects and conveys modern exhibition techniques information on the origin and culture of the first inhabitants of the island. The new permanent exhibit gives the visitor an insight into the cultures that inhabited the island in Pre-Historical and Early Historical times. The museum regularly hosts public seminars, special exhibitions and workshop for visitors to enjoy.

The museum is open daily from 9 am till 5 pm.



For more information check out the Facebook page National Archaeological Museum Aruba or website: www.manaruba.org

Editor's note: Pictures are property of the respective museums.❑





Carnival 73 Has Its Prince and Pancho!

Plus the King and Queen of Tumba

(Oranjestad)—Since the carnival season kicked off on November 11, several traditional carnival events have taken place ahead of the new year. These include the Tumba Festival, Calypso and Roadmarch competitions, as well as the election of the new Prince and Pancho of Carnival 73.

The 2027 carnival season officially began with the 11/11 event at the Aruba Tourism Authority, marking the official opening of Carnival 73 in the presence of current and former SMAC members, government representatives, and other invited guests. SMAC is the organization that is in charge of organizing Carnival events.

During his speech, Prime Minister Mike Eman welcomed the new SMAC board, led by Rusette Croes. He also congratulated the outgoing board and praised its contributions to Aruba's carnival celebrations.

The Prime Minister also called on the hospitality sector to play a more prominent role in carnival, particularly the larger hotels. He emphasized that their contributions could help organizers take Aruba's carnival to new heights, benefiting both locals and visitors alike.



Soca Monarch 2027 Pre-Finals
The first event on SMAC's calendar was the Soca Monarch competition at the Brazil Community Center, featuring 15 carnival groups.

Spread across two exciting nights, audiences enjoyed performances by Sunrise City Players, Good Times, Kaya, and Zeta Band, alongside crowd favorites Tsunami, 'N Fuzion, and O.R.E.O.
A total of 57 songs were performed, with 30 finalists advancing to the next stage. All eyes are now on the Caiso Showdown and Super Saturday Soca Finals, scheduled for January 22 and 23, 2027.

Note: Photos credited to Tsunami Aruba.

Prince and Pancho Elections
On November 14, the Prince and Pancho elections took place at the Dakota Community Center. The competition featured contestants representing several carnival groups, including Dushi Carnival Group, TOB Carnival Group, and Empire Carnival Group.

Dushi Carnival Group dominated the evening, securing several titles across different age categories.

In the Children's category,







Liam Paesch, known as "Prins Tiki," and Aiden Wever, known as "Pancho Taka," took home the crowns.

In the Youth category, Zayron Geerman, "Prins Paki (Here)," and Jaydrick Panneflek, "Pacho Paya (There)," emerged victorious.

In the Senior category, David Garcia, "Prins Full (Completely)," and Giorgi Tromp, "Pancho Fout (Wrong)," claimed the titles.

Meanwhile, TOB Carnival Group secured the crowns in the Adult category, with Haime Geerman, "Prins Ey Baha (Hey Lower)," and Gerald Sara, "Bo Stem (Your Voice)," taking top honors.

Congratulations to all the winners!

Note: Photo credited to TOB Carnival Group.



Children's and Youth Calypso, Roadmarch, and Tumba Competitions
To wrap up the first series of carnival events before saying goodbye to 2026, the Children's and Youth Calypso, Roadmarch, and Tumba competitions took place.

It was certainly a colorful evening, featuring performances by several talented young participants, including a few familiar faces.

The Tumba Festival featured six contestants, three in the Children's category and three in the Youth category. Among the familiar faces were Carnival 72 Children's Tumba King Jaymerson Kelly and Melody Franken, daughter of renowned Buleria singer Rocco Franken.

Shalixienne Martis was crowned Children's Tumba Queen with her song "At'e Cabuya Ban Conop'e. (Here's the rope let's put a know in it)" Martis also received the Rookie of the Year award.

Jaymerson Kelly secured second place with his song "Den Laira (In the Air)," while Alina Henriquez took third place with "Awe Si (Today is the Day)."

In the Youth category, Georvin Angela was crowned Youth Tumba King with his song "Amigo Pa Semper (Friends Forever)."

Melody Franken earned second place with "Ey Den (In There)," while Jaylon Machado finished third with "Liber (Free)." Machado also received the awards for Best Costume and Best Atmosphere.

A big congratulations to all participants and winners!

As the year draws to a close, excitement continues to build across Aruba for the upcoming Carnival 73 festivities.

The celebrations will resume on January 9, 2027, with the first parade of the season: the spectacular Flambeu/Fakkel (Torch) Parade.

Don't miss it!❑

Note: Images courtesy of TeleAruba.





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Conchi: Aruba's hidden natural pool

(Oranjestad)—Amongst the countless beaches surrounding the island that are well-known and frequently visited, there is an additional "hidden" natural pools that is situated in the northern coast of the island, two ideal stops in your tour itinerary. This is Conchi.



Conchi (Natural Pool)
For many years, Conchi was the only natural pool that we had on the island. Located in the Arikok National Park, near Boca Keto and the Daimari Ranch, Conchi—also known "Cura di Turtuga (Turtle's Cove) or just Natural Pool—is reachable with any 4×4 vehicle or by foot if you're up for a long hike. However, since it is part of the National Park, you must first get permission from park management to enter. You would have to purchase a day pass, and receive a wristband as proof of payment. Once you've completed that, you are set!

If you decide to hike from the entrance of the Arikok National Park, this is also possible: do bring plenty of protective clothing and enough water and food—it could take you up to three hours to hike there!

However, when you eventually do get there, you will be greeted with crystal blue water surrounded by a natural rock formation that protects you from the wild waves on the other side. Though the pool is located on the northern side of the island (where the sea is largely rough and largely no suitable for swimming), the pool itself is very calm. It's also relatively deep, and you can climb up the rocks and jump in!

Fun fact: "Conchi" means small bowl in Papiamento. Once you get there, you may see why we call it that.❑

Best spots to view the sunset

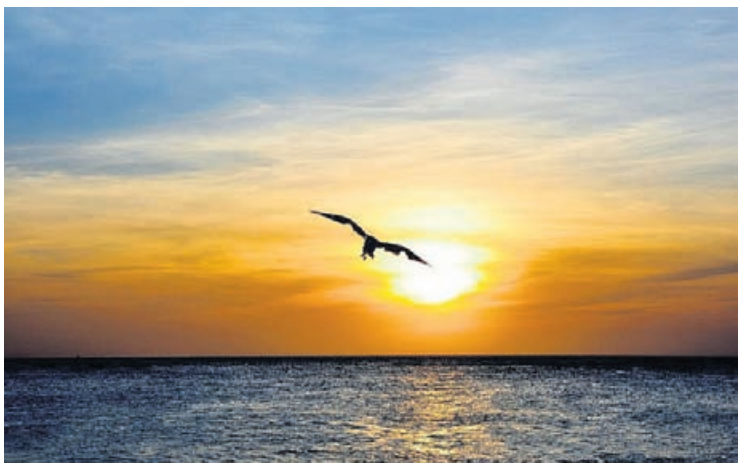
(Oranjestad)—What can be more romantic than surprising your partner with a date watching the sunset? Aruba's sunset leave many speechless, and luckily, the best spots to view the sunset are entirely accessible and easy to find. Here are some of the best places to view the sunset on the island.

California Light House
Of course, being one of the highest points easily accessible to locals and tourists, the California Light House hill not only offers a tremendous view of the sunset, but also a breath taking scenery of most of the island. In the distance you can spot all the hotels, the western shoreline and the wild waves that crash on the northern side of the island.

Manchebo & Eagle Beach
Speaking of the western shoreline, the best spots for viewing the sunset on the beach has to be either Manchebo Beach or at Eagle Beach, which stretch along the entire western coast of the island. The sunset on these beaches is truly breathtaking; the sky and ocean look so big and spacious, and paired with the orange/pink hue of the sunset, the white sandy beaches and the soft sounds of waves crashing—it can only be described as an experience!

Arashi Beach
Another beach that has to be considered as another great spot to view the sunset. Arashi Beach is the last beach you will find along the western coast line, just before you drive up the hill to the California Light House. A favorite for surfers and body boarders, the Arashi sky stretches out for miles, lending a spectacular canvas for the sun to create a masterpiece of orange, pink and purple

Hooiberg Hill
These last two options are for more active couples. If you and your partner like to



hike, the Hooiberg Hill may be a great place for you to get your daily workout in and enjoy a beautiful view of the sunset and the island as a little reward. Climb on top the 587-step stairs and reach the top to enjoy this incredible scenery.

Casibari Rock Formation
If you're a rock climber, you might enjoy watching the sunset on top of the Casibari Rock Formation. It's no Yosemite, but it does offer a fun little exercise to get to the top. But if you prefer not to get your hands a little dirty, you can always use the stairs in the back. hue.❑

ARUBA TODAY

Meet an Aruban trailblazer: Padu Lampe

(Oranjestad)—This week we remember one of our most beloved Aruban giant, Juan Chabaya Lampe—better known as Padu Lampe or Padu del Caribe. As one of the most important and renowned artists in the Aruban cultural sphere, Padu's long career led him to be honored today as "the father of culture."



On April 26th, 1920, Juan Chabaya Lampe "Padu Lampe/Padu del Caribe" was born in Nassaustraat, Oranjestad. He grew up in a happy musical environment, and it is because of this that he developed a love for music. Starting from the age of 12, he was agile in the clarinet, mandolin and cuatro. Henry Lampe, his father, was also a well-known pianist and musician.

In a publication of the informative seminar, "Observer", from august 1st, 1962, Padu's many merits and friendly personality stood out. It was said that he was an excellent pianist with a personal style and full of surprises. Secondly, though the composer was not too familiar with music theory, he showed innovations in his compositions. Lastly, Padu was a promoter of Creole music around the world.

One of the most important moments in Aruban history, in which he was able to witness first-hand, was the first radio broadcast on the island on March 20th, 1954. Here, he was accompanied by Antillean guitarist Julian Coco and Hubert "Loi" Booi.

In the art world, Padu was also a known painter. During his youth, he made several painting using his unique style. In 1939, he participated in an art exhibit in New York, where he won a bronze medal for his painting "Typical View of Aruba."

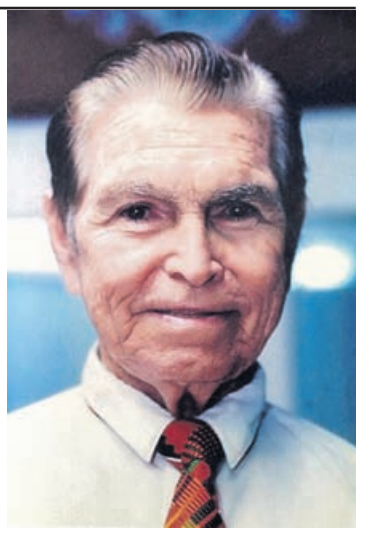
Padu remained a popular artist within the Dutch Antilles and the Caribbean as a pianist, singer, author and painter. Padu Lampe was a local artist who became renowned in Venezuela, Colombia, The U.S. and The Netherlands too. In the 1950s, he sold no less than 50 thousand copies of his long-playing albums (LPs).

Padu Lampe was a multifaceted artist, inspired by his interest in parapsychology and supernatural phenomenon. He wrote three books in Papiamento on the subject in 1986, which was published by the Aruban National Printing Press with sponsorship provided by the Prince Bernhard Funds Netherlands Antilles.

Besides that, Padu passed his exam on "Society to Advanced Ethical Hypnosis" in 1964 in New Jersey. He received a certificate as a hypnotechnician, which gave him the authority to practice hypnosis in some states.

Over the course of his career, he received many accolades and awards in Aruba, Curacao, Venezuela and the Netherlands.

Padu del Caribe passed away on November 29th, 2019, at the age of 99 years old. Padu brought the Aruban culture around the world. His legacy will remain ingrained in the Aruban cultural history, and he will be known forever as one of the most influential trailblazers of our community.



Padu will always be in Aruba's heart, because he had composed various special songs dedicated to the mothers of the island; his song "Sonrisa di un baby" ("A baby's Smile") has been written in three different languages. Padu also wrote our national anthem "Aruba Dushi Tera", along with Mr. Rufo Wever. This song was approved by the government of Aruba and was named the official anthem of the island in 1976.

Other songs that have been considered as being almost a second anthem for Arubans is the special composition he wrote for his wife Daisy Croes called "Abo so". Daisy later passed away in 1994.❑

Origin of Papiamento—Aruba's native language

ORANJESTAD — Papiamento, Creole language of ABC (Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao) is from the Cape Verdean Creole family (Cape Verdean language) and was taken to the Caribbean in the 9th century by the Cape Verdeans of that time (linings and slaves), experts in cane culture and sugar production, and who were hired by Jewish entrepreneurs who went to invest in this business in the Caribbean. Cape Verdeans taught this pre-industrial revolution technology (planting cane and producing sugar, which they had learned from Madeirans) to slaves from other African regions, and did so in their language, Cape Verde Creole (Cape Verdean language) , hence the language implanted in Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao.



Unlike many interesting stories, wanting to link Papiamento directly to Portuguese, Galician or Castilian (see Papiamento, on Wikipedia – Portuguese version and Spanish version, where the Portuguese and Spanish, each claim the direct origin of Papiamento), in fact, this is not true. Papiamento is not direct from Portuguese, Galician or Castilian, it is from the Cape Verde Creole family (Cape Verdean language). You can see this best when it's saying obscene words and offending someone, precisely as they say today in both ABC and Cape Verde islands. The obscene words kept the original, had no lexical influence either from Castilian or Dutch. Also the Papi Cristang of Malacca, the Patuá of Macau, and several creoles from the east (from Daman, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Philippines, Indonesia) and Africa (Casamança, Guinea Bissau, Sierra Leone and Nigeria, these last two releases to the English), all originated in the Creole of Cabo Verde (Cape Verdean language), which was the French language spoken in Portuguese feitories on the coast of Africa (from Senegal to Sierra Leone), and which was taken east by the thousands of cable – Verdeans (linings and slaves, already Christianized and speaking Creole) who served as sailors and "slaves of arms" in Portuguese caravels, demanding the east. I don't know why the official history of Portugal usually omits this fact, which is in the chronicles of the quinrentist chroniclers, but which we never saw in the history of Portugal that we study from primary education to higher education. However, it has always been tried to deceive us, in colonial time, that we were descendants of Viriato (Iberian hero in the fight against the Romans) and the pastors of the Hermini Mountains, but not much speaking of our black-African ancestry.

We Cape Verdeans understand each other very well with these Antillans and Easterns, whose language is from the same Creole family of Cape Verde (Cape Verdean language), speaking their Creole and we ours. Therefore, Papiamento, Papi Cristang, Patuá Macaense and the creoles, said of Portuguese origin, Daman, India, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, some locations in the Philippines and some places in Indonesia, are creoles of the language family Cape Verde Creole (Cape Verdean language) and indirectly the Galaico-Duriense or Galaico-Portuguese, a language that the people spoke in Portugal in the 6th and 7th century.❑

Source: Dushi Aruba

Aruba's cultural and literary development: Then and now

(Oranjestad)—The Aruban culture has seen many substantial developments over the course of a century. With the introduction of the Lago Refinery at the turn of the 20th century, followed by the breakout of the Second World War and the general incentive for political independence during the mid-century, a cultural identity on the island began to take form and have since developed through international and local influences.



In the pre-industrial era of the 19th century, much could not be said about a cultural identity on the island. Still being a part of a Dutch colonial territory at the same, as well as not having political or economic autonomy (Curacao was the center of commerce, cultural life, and political management of the Netherland Antilles at the time), the small population of Aruba consisted mostly of farmers and fishermen, tending to their crops and their cattle, or going out to fish to provide for their family. As Quito Nicolaas states in his article Historia di Literatura Arubiano: E Bida Cultural (Literary History of Aruba: Cultural Life), "during the pre-industrial period, there were no significant economic activity that could have created a cultural ambience, with only one way to generate profit at the time for the sub existence of Aruban families."

It wasn't until the introduction of the Lago Refinery in San Nicolas in 1928, that the island saw a small boom in cultural manifestations and entertainment, as farmers left the 'cunucu' (country) life to work in the refinery, which resulted in Aruba acquiring a different economic pillar. Before this, entertainment and cultural manifestations were mostly experiences by local parishes and the island's elite, who often partook in cultural and entertaining activities around the island, like going to the movie theater or coming together to share poetry on Sundays after church.

Literary life

Throughout the 19th century and up until the 1940s, there were also not much trace of a cultural climate for the cultural-literary sector on the island. Primary education was introduced on the island mid-19th century, followed by secondary and higher education around the late 30's and 40's. It wasn't until the 1950s, with the introduction of the E.R.N.A agreement in 1951 and the signing of the Statute in 1954, which allowed more space for and control over the economic and cultural development of Aruba, that the literary life on the island began to grow substantially compared to decades before. This was in response to local institutions established in the 1940s for cultural and literary growth on the island, but that did not yet capture the attention of the general public. The 1950 brought with it a boom of literary production on the island, like those of V.S. Piternella, as well as migrant authors José Ramón Vicioso y Rings William Rufus, who have also contributed to the literary development on the island. The literary movement was further promoted by local broadcasters Voz di Aruba and Radio Kelkboom, with their regular broadcast of literary works.

The 50s and 60s also saw the influence of international cultures, especially that of the United States. During this time, because of international influences as well as the continued prosperity of the oil refinery, cultural traditions in Aruba began to really take form and become widespread, as different worldly and local concepts were introduced in the Aruban society. With the establishment of local television broadcast station Tele-Aruba in 1963, and with time and possibilities, local programs such as "Nos Tera"' ("Our Land") started to pay more attention to the Aruban culture and worked to form a cultural consciousness in the community. The 1960s also saw the rise of local authors and artists, who were more comfortable in producing works in our native tongue, Papiamento, but who also produced works in Spanish, English and Dutch. This new phenomenon was in response to the interaction between economic growth, individual prosperity, cultural life and literary expression.

The 21st century

Nowadays, international influence on our culture is still prevalent, especially those from Latin America, the United States and The Netherlands. Nevertheless, there also exists a strong cultural identity and traditions that are exclusive to the Aruban culture, often manifesting during traditional celebrations, like Dia di San Juan/ Dera Gay (St. John's Day), Dia di Himno y Bandera (National Hymn and Flag Day), Camping during Easter and much more. With the surge of social media in the last decade, artistic voices, especially those of the younger generation, has become even more prevalent and easily accessible to the community of Aruba through online platforms such as Facebook, Instagram and TikTok.❑

Source: Historia di Literatura Arubiano: E Bida Cultural by J.R. "Quito" Nicolaas



ARUBA TODAY

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

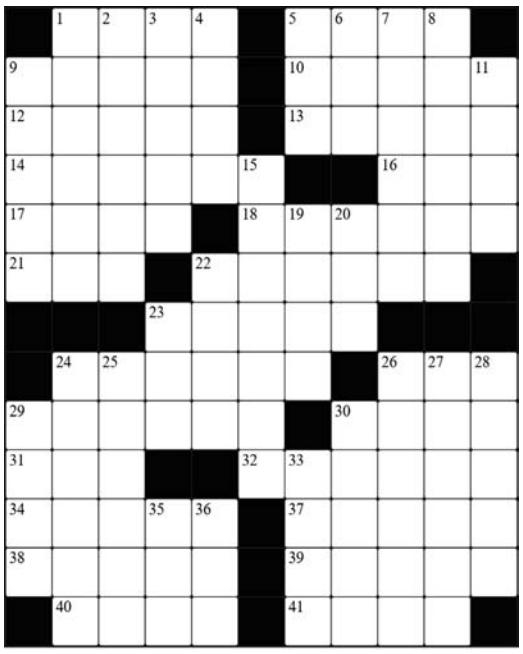
1. Money
5. Reduced amount
9. Devilfish
10. Book of maps
12. Fury
13. Deli fixture
14. Leafy lunches
16. Near the ground
17. Newspaper commentary piece
18. Chefs' protectors
21. Maiden name label
22. Sparkles
23. Grown girl
24. Tap
26. Trip around the track
29. Milk buy
30. Bread with a pocket
31. Bullring cheer
32. Sudden assaults
34. Useful skill
37. Palette stuff
38. After a while
39. Because
40. Foot part
41. Border

DOWN

1. Party snack
2. "Life of Pi" director
3. Place
4. Difficult
5. -- Vegas
6. Catchall abbr.
7. Ski event
8. Beauty parlors
9. Wall worker
11. Uses a needle
15. Sockeye and coho
19. Fuel from bogs
20. Sprinted
22. Disco dancing
23. Humor
24. Latin dances
25. Magician's word
26. Word with expenses or quarters
27. Right away
28. Cut's counterpart
29. Mined fuel
30. Kilt pattern
33. Church area
35. Long fish
36. Three, in Torino



Yesterday's answer



AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

11-23 CRYPTOQUOTE

OR IDF D LHDVROJVM LEOBXR DVRVZG SDC, IORX DOE MOQH NOSHE DGS D FQC FK LMVH CKV NKVMS SEKIG OG OR.

— SODGD BDLDMSKG

Saturday's Cryptoquote: WHAT MOISTENS THE LIP AND WHAT BRIGHTENS THE EYE? WHAT CALLS BACK THE PAST, LIKE THE RICH PUMPKIN PIE? — JOHN GREENLEAF WHITTIER

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic—but important—information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

Electrical power



Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of outlets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.

Drinking water



The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.

Supermarket hours

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.

Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.



SUDOKU

To play sudoku, use logic to fill the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 only once. Puzzle difficulty increases from Monday to Sunday.

King Classic Sudoku

	9			2		5	1	
	4	5		3		6		
	2		5				8	3
4					1			
		9	2	6	7	8		1
		1		4				
	3	7	4	1	2	9		8
9		8	6		5		3	
		4	9		3		5	

Difficulty: ★★ 11/24

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Answer to previous puzzle

9	2	5	3	7	6	8	4	1
3	4	6	8	1	9	2	5	7
1	7	8	2	5	4	6	3	9
6	8	7	4	2	3	1	9	5
4	9	1	7	6	5	3	2	8
5	3	2	9	8	1	7	6	4
7	6	3	5	4	8	9	1	2
8	1	4	6	9	2	5	7	3
2	5	9	1	3	7	4	8	6

Difficulty: ★ 11/23

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Global wealth tax fight has only just begun: France's Zucman



French economist Gabriel Zucman poses during a photo session in Paris on June 12, 2024.

Paris, France

Efforts to tax the ultra-wealthy more will build worldwide despite the recent defeat of a one-time levy on billionaires in California, the French inequality specialist Gabriel Zucman told AFP in an interview Friday.

Ahead of a Paris gathering of top economists, politicians and other specialists this weekend, Zucman also said minimum tax rates on the rich were necessary to prevent an "international oligarchy".

A manifesto signed by Zucman and around 100 others that forms the basis for the Paris summit warns of a threat to democracy from the growing concentration of wealth and political power worldwide.

Question : Along with a minimum tax of two percent on people with assets worth more than $100 million, the manifesto calls for levies of around 25 percent to recover "unpaid" taxes by the most wealthy. How would this work?

Answer : "The minimum tax is needed because studies have shown the problem of fiscal injustice in all countries. In France, billionaires pay half as much in taxes relative to their income as the rest of the population.

And the fact that the number of huge fortunes has exploded in recent years is in large part because they pay little in tax... in such a context, it's perfectly justified to make that up, to adjust for these unpaid dues.

Unlike taxes on capital, or one-time taxes that historically have existed, you could let all affected taxpayers deduct what they've paid over the previous 15 years."

Q : California recently rejected a one-time five percent tax on billionaires, by around 52 percent to 48 percent. And a minimum wealth tax recently failed to secure approval in the French Parliament. Do you think such taxes will ever be imposed?

A : "We're at the very beginning of an international movement to tax the ultra-rich, which began in 2024 during the G20 summit hosted by Brazil.

In just a few years, this international movement has taken off. History shows that these fights take time simply because the wealthy defend themselves with the resources they have at hand.

As more citizens seize these initiatives, I think we can confidently imagine their adoption in the coming years. And if California doesn't do it first, another country will."

Q : To protect media independence, the manifesto calls for giving employees a "right of dismissal" of shareholders under certain conditions. Why?

A : "A minimum tax of two percent on the wealthy is not enough on its own to let pro-democracy forces win the day against oligarchs.

We have to reinforce the democratic infrastructure, in particular by guaranteeing the independence of the media against oligarchic pressures and the interference of wealthy individuals who own a significant part of the private media in many countries, including France."

Q : Researchers, politicians and even AI executives have warned about the dangers of artificial intelligence. You criticise the profit-model for AI and are calling for a democratisation of governance at these companies.

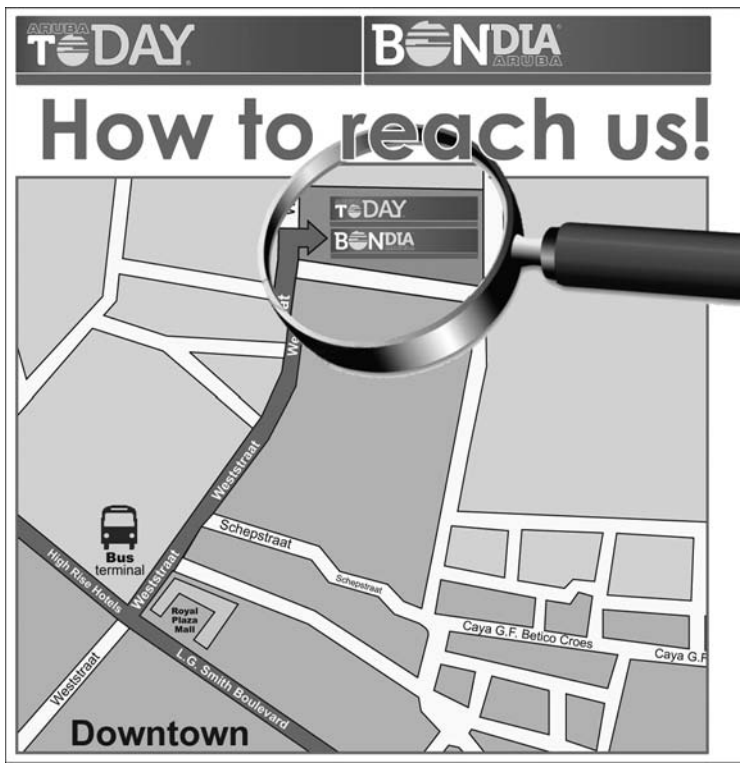
A : "We have to guarantee equal access to the knowledge and information that artificial intelligence is appropriating.

AI siphons off the knowledge of the entire world, then reconstitutes it and offers it to users who pay. All this appropriation of knowledge, for the moment, is subject to hardly any oversight, and all decisions are left to the discretion of a few oligarchs in Silicon Valley.

Since these companies are appropriating all of humanity's knowledge, it's not crazy that they belong to all of humanity in the form of nonprofit foundations."❑

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San Nicolas: Seroe Preto
Tel. 584 4833

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Blood Bank Aruba	587 0002
Urgent Care	586 0448
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Police Noord	527 3200
Police Sta. Cruz	527 2900
Police San Nicolas	584 5000
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ARUBA TODAY NEWS

Defense, AI, high tech: a delicate balance between armies and industry

Izmir, Turkey

The rapid integration of high tech and artificial intelligence into the armed forces presents a tricky dilemma: entrusting part of their future to private companies while risking their sovereignty.

On one side are digital and mission-critical technology specialists driven by market forces and controlled by private capital demanding profits, independent from any political control.

On the other are military leaders who answer only to political authority and are obsessed with strategy, hierarchy and the sacrosanct nature of defense secrecy.

Between them is the race to connect the battlefield, from troop coordination to real-time terrain analysis, generating terabits of data which can decide a war's outcome and the fate of many lives.

Beyond the even more complex issue of so-called killer robots, one example sums up the defense challenge: the civilian Starlink satellite network and its military counterpart, Starshield, which Ukraine desperately needs.

Since Russia's invasion in 2022, Kyiv has faced restrictions on access to Starshield, owned by Elon Musk's SpaceX, leaving a Sword of Damocles hanging over Ukraine's armed forces.



Defense technologies, military equipment and advanced communication systems are showcased during NATO EDGE 2026, the alliance's largest technology and industry event, organized by the NATO Communications and Information Agency (NCIA), in Izmir, Turkiye, on November 17, 2026.

Musk has shifted his stance on Ukraine many times, insisting any disruption was the responsibility of Washington, not SpaceX.

- 'A fine line' -

The issue loomed over NATO Edge this week, a three-day conference on critical technologies and digital warfare where military chiefs, government officials and defense experts from NATO's 32 member states and Ukraine gathered in Izmir, Turkey.

"This is a difficult issue, one many ministries of defense are grappling with," analyst Tom Barton with intelligence firm Janes told AFP.

For companies "to deliver the so-called 'networked battlefield', some access ideally needs to be given" to confidential data, he explained.

"From space to land-based sensors and military communications, defense establishments are experimenting with standalone exercises and varying levels of trust and access."

But militaries -- without safeguards -- cannot entrust their fate to developers, who are often focused primarily on civilian needs.

"There is a lot of push or advocacy for military and government to have a closer relationship with industry," a U.S. company representative told AFP on condition of anonymity.

"But there's a fine line. You turn on the news and you see Elon Musk doing shit in Ukraine like slowing down the internet," he fumed.

With boundaries constantly shifting, military leaders have little choice but to compromise.

"You don't need to be 100 percent sovereign, but sovereign enough," he explained.

- Trust -

For Major General Rainer Beeck, one of NATO's top cyberspace commanders, it is "a hard nut to crack".

"You have to make choices about which classification you make, for which data... The problem is the trust," he said.

Admiral Pierre Vandier, NATO's Supreme Allied Commander Transformation (SACT), likewise insisted that "trust ... is the most important thing".

"Trust in architecture, in data sharing, in AI agents, in decision-making tools," he said.

"We need to close the fighter-factory gap. Ukraine did it."

Nearly five years of war have given Kyiv more experience than anyone else in NATO.

The dynamics also vary according to the size of national defense budgets.

For large powers, "data collection is not the problem... If war would start, we would get (it). The problem then is it's too late to organize," Beeck said, calling for a more proactive approach.

Smaller governments need "to build up their capacity", said Mitch Free, vice president of international government at Vantor, which provides satellite imagery for defense and intelligence agencies.❑

U.N. chief calls for AI risk management framework within a year



United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres gestures during an official dinner at the 49th Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) summit in Manila on November 17, 2026.

United Nations, United States

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres called Monday for the world's nations to adopt a mechanism to temper the risks posed by AI, as he addressed a conference on the technology in Barbados.

As the end of Guterres' time at the helm of the international body approaches, he has become increasingly vocal about the need for AI safety measures to avoid a future in which "killer robots" are a reality.

"Today I call for member states to coordinate efforts and to develop within the next year a globally inclusive and principles-based multilateral framework for AI risk management, backed by independent and credible oversight," he said.

- 'Control of our world' -

International regulation of AI appears little more than a pipe dream as the technology's superpowers, the United States and China, seek the upper hand in research and development breakthroughs.

Nonetheless Guterres said that a starting point could be for countries to agree shared safety measures, a testing regime and basic requirements for independent oversight.

In September, Anthropic CEO Dario Amodei, OpenAI CEO Sam Altman and SpaceX chief Elon Musk called for a slowdown on the development of AI.

Others, like Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang and Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg, want to move full steam ahead.

Regulators in the U.S., where AI development has proceeded at the fastest pace, are unlikely to intervene.❑

Murray, Jokic rescue Nuggets in thriller, Heat down Thunder



Jamal Murray #27 of the Denver Nuggets drives to the basket against Buddy Hield #7 of the Chicago Bulls during the second half at United Center on November 22, 2026 in Chicago, Illinois

Los Angeles, United States
Jamal Murray scored 45 points and Nikola Jokic weighed in with a 37-point triple double as the Denver Nuggets battled to a 151-145 overtime victory over the Chicago Bulls in the NBA on Sunday.
The Nuggets improved to 10-5 for the season but were pushed to the brink by the struggling Bulls (4-12) before Murray and Jokic combined for 12 points in overtime to see Denver home.

Murray's masterpiece included six three-pointers, while Christian Braun also came up big for Denver with a 21-point contribution.
The Bulls were led by 33 points from Buddy Hield, who nailed seven three-pointers, while Jalen Smith added 26. Australian guard Josh Giddey scored 23 points with 22 assists and 14 rebounds.
Denver coach David Adelman was relieved to escape with a win.
"It was just a really tough night for us guarding them, but obviously at the other end, we did a lot of really good things," Adelman said.
"It's the NBA -- if we could win 130-60 every night, we would... If we'd lost I would say 'Our defense is really bad and blah blah blah.' But we didn't. We won, and we're 10 and five."
Earlier, the Miami Heat romped past the injury-hit Oklahoma City Thunder 123-113 to extend their winning streak to seven games.
Miami, who started without the injured Giannis Antetokounmpo (groin strain), took full advantage of a depleted Thunder line-up to record a wire-to-wire win.

Bam Adebayo led Miami with a triple-double, finishing with 24 points, 15 rebounds and 12 assists with two steals and three blocks.
Pelle Larsson added 21 points while Nikola Jovic scored 15 from the bench as seven Miami players finished in double figures.
"Coming into the game, obviously one of your best players is out of the game, so the next player has to step up -- and that was me," Adebayo said, referring to Antetokounmpo's absence.
Miami improved to 10-6 for the season with the victory while Oklahoma City, who were without reigning NBA Most Valuable Player Shai Gilgeous-Alexander, fell to 10-7.
The Atlanta Hawks improved to 11-6 with a 107-97 defeat of the Detroit Pistons.
Nickeil Alexander-Walker rattled in six three-pointers to finish with 27 points as Atlanta erupted in the fourth quarter to extend their winning streak to four games.
Detroit trailed by 10 points midway through the second quarter, but rallied to lead by as many as 13 in the third quarter before taking an 11-point advantage into the final frame.
But Atlanta flipped the script in the fourth quarter, embarking on an 18-0 run to take the lead before outscoring the Pistons 33-12 to surge to victory.

Isaiah Joe led Detroit's scoring with 19 off the bench but Cade Cunningham was restricted to just five points while serving up 15 assists.
The struggling Golden State Warriors upset the Boston Celtics in San Francisco, winning a low-scoring encounter 88-87 to snap their five-game losing streak.
The reigning NBA champion New York Knicks defeated their arch-rival Indiana Pacers 113-106 thanks to 30 points from Karl-Anthony Towns and 22 points from Jalen Brunson.❑

Making history at ATP Finals a 'privilege': Alcaraz



Spain's Carlos Alcaraz poses with the trophy after victory against Germany's Alexander Zverev during the final of the ATP Finals tennis tournament, in Turin on November 22, 2026.

Turin, Italy
Carlos Alcaraz said it was a "privilege" after becoming just the fourth man to add an ATP Finals title to his career Grand Slam.
The 23-year-old Spaniard beat world number one Alexander Zverev 6-2, 7-6 (9/7) on Sunday to win the season-ending tournament for the first time in his career.
After starting his 2026 season with a first Australian Open win to become the youngest man to complete the career Slam, with victory in Turin Alcaraz now joins Roger Federer, Andre Agassi and Novak Djokovic as the only players to have won all four majors and the Finals.
The seven-time Grand Slam winner is the youngest man to have won all five of the titles at least once.
"This one is special. This one means the world to me, to my team, to my family," Alcaraz said of winning the title -- a year on from his defeat in the 2025 final against Jannik Sinner.

"So finally, to be able to lift the trophy here, it's something amazing.
"It's a privilege, and I'm just really proud."
Alcaraz revealed that when he dropped to the floor after sealing championship point with a backhand winner, he was initially worried that his celebrations might be a bit premature.

"Sometimes they call the bounce a bit late, so the first few seconds when I was laying on the court, I was thinking, 'please, the ball was in'," Alcaraz said.
"Once I got it, it was a lot of emotions that came to me.
"It was a really difficult two weeks for me, dealing with the pressure, dealing with the physical problems," he added of the knee and hamstring issues that impacted his tournament.
Despite being on a 14-match winning run and having won the last three events he has played -- Vienna Open, Paris Masters and ATP Finals -- Alcaraz rejected claims he was the best player in the world.
"I think everybody feels he's the No. 1. Me, Sascha (Zverev), Jannik, (Ben) Shelton, I think everybody thinks they are the No. 1 of the world," he said.
"Right now, the ranking says it's Sascha, and we have to give credit to him."
The 29-year-old German broke his Grand Slam duck in 2026, winning both the French and US Opens to reach the top of the ATP rankings for the first time in his career.❑

49ers trounce Vikings in Azteca clash as Bills, Chiefs win

Mexico City, Mexico

The San Francisco 49ers scored a dominant 35-10 victory over the Minnesota Vikings in Mexico City on Sunday as the Kansas City Chiefs and Buffalo Bills warmed up for next week's NFL blockbuster showdown with comfortable wins.

In a lopsided tussle at the iconic Azteca Stadium, the 49ers underscored their status as serious Super Bowl contenders with an emphatic defeat of a Minnesota team boasting the league's best defense.

San Francisco quarterback Brock Purdy was the architect of a superb 49ers performance, throwing three touchdowns -- two of them to tight end George Kittle -- with no interceptions.

Purdy, who finished with 255 yards from 21-of-26 passing, was in complete control throughout as San Francisco cruised to a win that leaves the 49ers with a 9-1 record in the NFC.

Mike Evans, Christian McCaffrey and Ji'Ayir Brown scored the other 49ers touchdowns.

"We had a great game plan, everyone was dialed in this week," Purdy said. "We played complementary football -- defense got the ball back for us, and we went and made stuff happen."



Minnesota Vikings' safety #26 Theo Jackson tackles San Francisco 49ers' wide receiver #5 Mike Evans during the NFL regular-season football game between the Minnesota Vikings and the San Francisco 49ers at Banorte Stadium in Mexico City on November 22, 2026.

- Bills, Chiefs roll on -

Buffalo quarterback Josh Allen threw for 304 yards and a touchdown and James Cook ran for 89 yards and a touchdown as the Bills defeated Miami 26-9.

The Bills (9-1) stretched their win streak to six games and immediately turned their attention to Thursday's Thanksgiving clash clash with Patrick Mahomes and the Chiefs.

"We've got to learn from this one, put it behind us," Allen said. "Proud of how our guys played. Proud of our defense, but a lot of things to learn from."

Mahomes completed 27-of-39 passes for 324 yards and three touchdowns in a 34-7 home rout of Arizona.

"I'm proud of how we came out and competed," Mahomes said.

"Having the game next week, you don't want to come out and not play to our standard. But we've got to keep it going."

Denver stayed level with Kansas City atop the AFC West division as Jonah Coleman ran for 111 yards and three touchdowns to spark the host Broncos (8-2) over Las Vegas 38-24, stretching their win streak to six games.

Top draft pick Fernando Mendoza threw his first three NFL touchdown passes for the Raiders but a 35-yard interception return touchdown by Denver's Ja'Quan McMillian sealed Vegas' fate.

JJ McCarthy threw for a touchdown and Jameis Winston ran for one to spark the New York Giants over visiting Jacksonville 23-18.

The Giants (6-3-1) snapped the Jaguars' three-game win streak as Jacksonville fell to 7-3.

Detroit's Jared Goff completed 20-of-28 passes for 279 yards and two touchdowns while Jahmyr Gibbs ran for 98 yards and two touchdowns in the Lions' 31-21 home triumph over Tampa Bay.

"I loved the way we came out. The ebbs and flows are feeling right," Lions coach Dan Campbell said after watching his team bag their sixth victory in a row.

"We're gaining strength. We're leaning on each other and there's a lot of confidence right now. I feel us getting better, continuing to climb, and it's the right time."

Chicago's win streak hit five as the Bears matched the Lions at 8-2 ahead of their Thursday meeting with a 21-13 home win over New Orleans. Caleb Williams threw for 181 yards and two touchdowns.

Dak Prescott threw for 325 yards and four touchdowns and ran for another score as the Dallas Cowboys (5-6) routed Tennessee 51-30.

Philadelphia snapped a seven-game losing streak with a 19-16 home win over Pittsburgh, the woeful Eagles improving to 3-7 as the Steelers fell to 6-4.

At Charlotte, Chuba Hubbard ran for 120 yards and two touchdowns and Bryce Young threw for 254 yards and two touchdowns as Carolina edged Baltimore 35-33.

Ryan Fitzgerald's 37-yard field goal with 1:44 remaining gave the Panthers the winning points and extended Baltimore's losing streak to six games.❑

