



dateline: UVI

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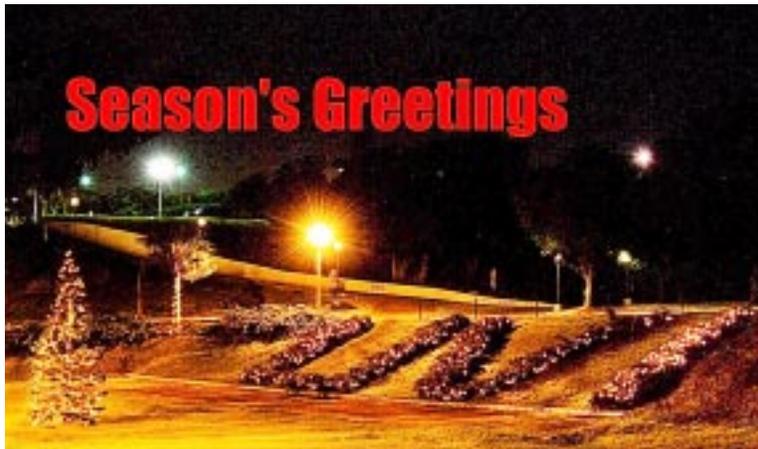
UVI Celebrates the Holidays

Faculty, staff and administrators at the University of the Virgin Islands are celebrating the holiday season with various activities. The music department opened the season with its annual Christmas concert at the Reichhold Center for the Arts on December 7. The concert featured the opera "Amahl and the Night Visitors," the Christmas story expressed through the eyes of a child. The event also included a Christmas sing-a-long.

Professor Austin Venzen served as the conductor and Professor Elvira Green served as the stage director.

On December 13, St. Thomas campus Chancellor Dr. John Leipzig hosted a Christmas party in the Sports and Fitness Center. Food was served up hot off the open-pit grill set up in the Sports and Fitness Center parking lot.

Members of the UVI family and the community at-large were treated to Christmas – Caribbean style with the Reichhold Center's presentation of "Folk Nativity" on De-



Decorative lights illuminate the UVI hedge that greets westbound passersby and visitors to the St. Thomas campus. The entire area was decorated by St. Thomas campus Physical Plant staff.

ember 14 and 15. The musical was written by Caribbean playwright Alwin Bully. It features original Christmas songs along with traditional favorites. Set on a Caribbean island, the musical is about a hermit who is on trial for petty theft, but is used as a the village's scapegoat and is heaped with additional charges. At his trial, the hermit, played by community actor Jerome Kendall, tells the story of Christmas and is later relieved of the

additional charges piled on him.

Also on December 14 was the St. Croix campus Christmas party held at the Student Center. About 65 members of the UVI community attended the event.

Other on-campus holiday events included the St. Thomas campus Student Affairs Christmas party held on December 16 and the Physical Plant Christmas party held on December 20. Additional seasonal celebrations will be held until the University closes for holiday recess on December 24.

Events Calendar

Dec. 20 - Jan. 5	Lady Bucs Holiday STT Basketball Series
Dec. 24 - Jan. 6	Holiday Recess UVI Closed
Jan. 8	New Student Registration
Jan. 9 - 10	Late Registration

Happy Holidays

from the staff of UVI's Public Relations Office
Patrice Johnson, Nanyamka Farrelly, Gary Metz and Lois Rivera



Jerry James of Jerry and Carol's Horse Stables lifts a child to touch a horse at the St. Thomas/St. John Agriculture and Food Fair. The fair was held on November 23 and 24 on the grounds of UVI's Reichhold Center for the Arts.

NCAA Division I Basketball Teams Jam on UVI's Court

The University of the Virgin Islands Paradise Jam, a fast-growing pre-season NCAA Division I tournament, was held from November 22-30, 2002, in UVI's state-of-the-art Sports and Fitness Center on the St. Thomas campus. The impressive lineup included six men's teams and seven women's teams from colleges and universities around the nation.

For the men's championship, the Brigham Young University Cougars defeated the St. Bonaventure Bonnies, clinching that title.

The number one ranked Duke University women's Blue Devils won the women's championship over the University of Arkansas Lady Razorbacks by two points in an overtime game, said to be the highlight of Paradise Jam.

The tournament opened with a game between St. Bonaventure University and Virginia Tech University men's teams in a packed Sports and Fitness Center. Adding to the excitement were half-time performances by the Charlotte Amalie High School marching band.

UVI has hosted Paradise Jam for two years. UVI's Athletic Director Peter Sauer said that each year the number of teams and competitiveness of the tournament increases.

"The numbers of fans that the event attracts on St. Thomas is second only to Carnival," Sauer said. "The sheer numbers of people who visit because of it and the exposure the tournament generates stateside is extremely advantageous to the University and to the territory as a whole."

Other participating men's teams were from Kansas State University, the University of Michigan, and the University of Toledo.

Other participating women's teams were Boston College, Hampton University, Old Dominion University, the University of Oregon and the University of South Carolina.



The University of Arkansas Lady Razorbacks take on Duke University's Blue Devils in the University of the Virgin Islands Paradise Jam women's championship held on November 30 at UVI's Sports and Fitness Center.

Mark Your Calendars

The University of the Virgin Islands will mark the 41st anniversary of its founding with a week of public activities in early March 2003, beginning with the annual Afternoon on the Green on Sunday, March 9. Other activities to plan for include cultural events and intellectual, literary and art exhibits on the St. Croix and St. Thomas campuses. The University will culminate the celebration with the Inauguration of Dr. LaVerne Ragster as UVI's fourth president on Sunday, March 16, 2003.

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