



# dateline: UVI

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## Record-Setting Crowds Attend UVI Paradise Jam

The third time was really a charm for the University of the Virgin Islands, which played host to record crowds November 21-29 at the third annual UVI Paradise Jam basketball tournament. Held each year in UVI's Sports and Fitness Center, the UVI Paradise Jam tournament draws more people to the Virgin Islands than any other event except Carnival and brings much-needed dollars to the territory's businesses just before the tourist season gears up.

Six men's teams and eight women's teams participated in the 2003 tournament, with Boston College and Wichita State battling neck and neck for the men's championship title. In the final seconds of the game Boston College edged out Wichita State 84-81.

The women's teams competed in two separate tournaments, a certified three-game event called the "St. John Division" and the other a two-game non certified event called the "St. Thomas Division."

Perhaps the most well attended game of the tournament was the women's St. Thomas division title match between Virginia Tech University and Mississippi State University. The lead switched back and forth between the two teams until the final 32 seconds of the



game, when Virginia Tech scored and took control until the final buzzer. Virginia Tech defeated Mississippi State 63-56.

In the women's St. John Division, Southwest Missouri State prevailed over Georgia Tech, West Virginia and James Madison University in round robin play. The winner was determined by a combination of net score and competition.

UVI's Associate Athletic Director Curtis Gilpin Sr. and V.I. Commissioner of Tourism Pamela Richards were inducted into the UVI Athletic Hall of Fame during the tournament. Both were champion volleyball players during their high school and college years. Gilpin has played for various volleyball leagues in the territory, winning MVP titles in each decade that he has played. He has also coached and served in executive capacities for numerous volleyball organizations in the territory. Gilpin is the coach of UVI's volleyball teams.

In June of 2003, a five-year contract extension was inked between Basketball Travelers, Inc., which organizes Paradise Jam and other collegiate tournaments, and the University of the Virgin Islands,

ensuring that UVI will continue to host the Paradise Jam tournament through 2008.



Top: UVI Associate Athletic Director Curtis Gilpin Sr., gives remarks after being inducted into the UVI Athletic Hall of Fame. Gilpin and V.I. Tourism Commissioner Pamela Richards were inducted during the tournament. Middle: During the men's tournament a Boston University player drives the ball through with a Monmouth University player in hot pursuit. In the women's tournament, players from Virginia Tech and Mississippi State University battle at the tip-off.

### Events Calendar

Dec. 24 - Jan. 4	UVI Closed for Holidays	Jan. 7-8	New Student Orientation	STT, STX
Jan. 5	UVI Reopens	Jan. 10	Classes Begin	STT, STX
Jan. 6	Three Kings Day, UVI Closed	Jan. 19	Martin Luther King Jr. Day, UVI Closed	

## UVI and V.I. Dept. of Agriculture Send Livestock to Haiti

What's it like flying for just over two hours in a small aircraft with 12 sheep and goats? Just ask Dr. Bob Godfrey of the UVI Agricultural Experiment Station's Animal Science Program.

Godfrey and Dr. Bethany Bradford, a veterinarian with the V.I. Department of Agriculture on St. Thomas, kept close tabs on their charges aboard a Coastal Air Transport 402 Cessna for the 500-mile flight. The livestock and Drs. Godfrey and Bradford made their way from the Virgin Islands to Haiti, where the animals were donated to the non-governmental organization Heifer

Project International. The animals will be given to farmer associations that are part of two projects in Haiti.

"We are physically located in the Caribbean and it's just good for us to work with our neighbors," Dr. Godfrey said of



Top, left to right: Dept. of Agriculture veterinary assistant Sylvester Prentice and butcher Patrick Olive load an animal into a kennel while veterinarian Dr. Bethany Bradford looks on.

UVI's involvement. Godfrey, a research associate professor of animal science on UVI's St. Croix campus, said it's the AES's responsibility to promote an island agriculture system.

Heifer Project International participants receive training in animal husbandry, are required to build adequate housing, plant improved forages and keep records on the animals. HPI has technicians that visit the associations monthly to monitor their progress.

In addition to two hair sheep from the UVI flock, Dr. Bradford and St. Thomas livestock farmers Arthur

Harthman, Buddy Henneman, Eugene Peters and Sinclair Hamm each donated animals to the HPI project. Additional farmers have shown an interest in donating animals in the future.

## UVI Alumni Bond, Local Chapter Makes Donation



Jacquelyn Adams, a UVI alum and director of the Queen Louise Home for the Aged, accepts a donation from Deanna Rogers, president of the UVI St. Thomas/St. John Alumni Association Chapter.

In an effort to foster stronger ties between alumni and the University, UVI President LaVerne Ragster hosted an evening cocktail reception for members of the UVI St. Thomas/St. John Alumni Association chapter on November 29, at the Reichhold Center for the Arts. A similar recep-

tion was held in October in Washington D.C. and others are planned for areas where there are UVI Alumni Association chapters. There are 11 chapters throughout the Caribbean and the United States.

The St. Thomas/St. John Alumni Association chapter is very active, recently making a donation to the Queen Louise Home for the Aged.

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