



# dateline: UVI

The monthly newsletter of The University of the Virgin Islands

January 21, 2005, vol xi, number 1

## Hug Your Sons, Speaker Says to Fathers

Inspired by civil rights leaders of the 1960s like the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and Stokely Carmichael, Dr. Dennis Rahiim Watson decided that he, too, had the power to motivate people to do the right thing. Today he spends his life doing just that – speaking to thousands of college students.

Dr. Watson was a guest speaker at the final Spring 2005 student orientation activity on the St. Croix campus. His presentation was titled “100 Challenges Facing Students of Color in the 21st Century.”

Dr. Watson, who had to overcome his childhood stuttering to become a motivational speaker, had his share of problems, including being kicked out of high school 37 times. He went on to graduate from the Harlem Preparatory School and Fordham, Pace and New York Universities.

The lack of self-discipline and self control is a major challenge of this generation, Dr. Watson said. Young people need affection from their parents so that they do not seek attention in destructive ways, he said, before calling a young man from



*Motivational speaker Dr. Dennis Rahiim Watson, right, demonstrates how fathers should interact with their sons by hugging Carl A. Christopher, a St. Croix campus student.*

the audience and hugging him. Watson said that fathers need to hug their sons.

Dr. Watson’s message transcends all age groups. While growing up, he said, his generation had nothing and everything, and this generation has everything and nothing. Watson explained that while the young people of his generation had little material items, they treasured everything, unlike the present generation which has everything, but takes it for granted. “We’ve got to change the way we think and become a generation that respects one another,” he told the students,

administrators and community members gathered for his lecture. He urged students to read, saying that knowledge determines the degree of success a person will attain.

Watson lives in New York and travels the nation conducting lectures and workshops. He previously lectured at UVI in 1998.

The lecture was sponsored by the Office of the Associate Chancellor, the Student Activities Office and the Small Business Development Center.

## Male Trio from UVI to Perform in Regional Contest



B.E.S.T, shown at left, a male trio from UVI, performs at the Miss UVI competition held in November 2004. The group will perform in the Caribbean Shining Star Competition scheduled for June at the Reichhold Center for the Arts. Caribbean Shining Star kicks-off this month with an “All Star Weekend,” at various venues, that includes a concert featuring Grammy-award-winning performer Alicia Keys.

B.E.S.T. is made up of Matthew Walcott, Lincoln Ward and Brandon Varlack. For more information call 777-5804 or visit [www.caribbeanshiningstar.com](http://www.caribbeanshiningstar.com)

### *Events Calendar*

Feb. 5

“Strings” at Reichhold

STT

# Tell Us What You Think, Dateline First-ever Survey

Your opinion is valuable to us at the University of the Virgin Islands Public Relations Office. We would like your opinion about our monthly newsletter *Dateline: UVI*. Please take a moment to fill out the survey below.

1) How would you classify yourself as a reader of *Dateline: UVI*?

- I read all articles  
 I only read a few of the articles in each issue  
 I read some articles in every other issue  
 I never read *Dateline*

2) Rate your overall impression of our publication.

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Fair  
 Poor

3) Overall, how interesting have you found *Dateline: UVI* in the past year?

- Very interesting  
 Interesting  
 Somewhat interesting  
 Not interesting at all

4) Rate *Dateline: UVI* on each of the following traits.

Overall layout of publication

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Fair  
 Poor

Writing

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Fair  
 Poor

Photography

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Fair  
 Poor

Story Selection

- Excellent  
 Good  
 Fair  
 Poor

5) How useful has *Dateline: UVI* been in helping you keep up with UVI news, events and happenings?

- Very useful  
 Somewhat useful  
 Not very useful  
 Not useful at all

6) Would you prefer to receive *Dateline: UVI*

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7) Please tell us a little about yourself.

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- Male  
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What is your relationship with UVI?

- Staff  
 Faculty  
 Student  
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 Retiree  
 Donor  
 Friend  
 Other

Are you between the ages of:

- 18-24  
 25-34  
 35-44  
 45-59  
 60 or older

8) Please give us any specific suggestions you may have about how we can improve *Dateline: UVI*.

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