



dateline: UVI

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UVI Bucs Down Goucher College on the Road

It was a nippy 40-something degrees in Washington D.C., and the players on UVI's men's basketball team were experiencing many firsts. It was the players' first road trip to the U.S., it was their first opportunity to play an NCAA Division III school, and for many, it was their first time in the nation's capital.

"It was a once-in-a-lifetime event for most of us," Head Coach Sean Georges said of the experience. The group visited the White House, the Capitol Building, the U.S. House of Representatives and many sites along the way. They also visited the office of Virgin Islands Delegate to Congress Donna Christiansen. Georges said it was especially exciting to get private tours of D.C. from UVI alumnus Dwayne Petersen, who works in Christiansen's office. He was equally



The dome of the U.S. Capitol Building stands in the background as UVI's Men's Basketball Buccaneers team, coaches, trainers and athletic directors pose. The team played three games in the Washington, D.C., area, Nov. 5-7.

Bucs Win at Paradise Jam

It is still pre-season for the UVI Men's Buccaneers basketball team, but they are off to an exciting start, taking a win in Paradise Jam on Nov. 20. The UVI Bucs toppled Pontificia Universidad Católica of Puerto Rico 70-54.

Freshman Shamal Caines made an excellent showing with 13 points and 12 rebounds. The season opens in February and Georges has one command for his team: "win, just win."

excited about the response at the games. "The fan support was tremendous," Georges said. Many UVI alumni and Virgin Islanders living in the area attended, he said.

"It was a nice time to bond with the team," said senior player Nahshon Jeffers. However, he added, there was no time for sitting around, as the team prepared for three games.

The first game was against Montgomery College in Rockville, Md. The Bucs fell 86-77. "It was very productive even though we lost," Jeffers said. "We had them in the first half."

The team was victorious with a 66-59 win over NCAA Division III Goucher College in Towson, Md. Newcomer Khalid Gerard Jr. led the team with 21 points. In

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Events Calendar

Nov. 25	UVI Closed - Thanksgiving Day	
Nov. 25-27	Paradise Jam Women's Games	STT
Nov. 26	UVI Closed - Fortsberg Day	
Dec. 2	GERS Town Hall Meeting	STX
Dec. 3-5	Woodworkers Expo	STT
Dec. 4	UVI Christmas Concert	STT
Dec. 6	VI-EPSCoR Conference	STT
Dec. 9	Creative Luncheon Series	STX
Dec. 10-12	Woodworkers Expo	STJ
Dec. 20-31	UVI Closed - Christmas Recess	

Ag Fair Cancelled

The St. Thomas-St. John Agriculture and Food Fair Organizing Committee cancelled this year's annual event, which was scheduled for Nov. 20-21, on the grounds of the Reichhold Center for the Arts on St. Thomas. The committee cited unfortunate circumstances beyond the control of organizers, including the flooding of the fairgrounds, difficulties in securing a suitable alternate site, overnight security for vendors and major losses suffered by farmers during the recent heavy rains.

Refunds are available for fair applicants. For more information call the UVI Cooperative Extension Service at (340) 693-1080 or the Department of Agriculture at (340) 774-5182.

UVI to Offer Hospitality Degree

The University of the Virgin Islands Board of Trustees approved the establishment of a Bachelor of Business Administration degree program in Hotel and Tourism Management at its quarterly meeting on Oct. 30, on the St. Thomas campus. Trustees unanimously approved establishment of the program within the UVI School of Business.

The program, which has been supported by Virgin Islands tourism industry partners, will provide the opportunity for students to obtain academic and practical knowledge to manage various levels of tourism in the Virgin Islands, as well as other markets. The design of the program is based on the recommendations of local industry partners, tourism professionals, and course requirements from successful hospitality bachelor's degree programs in the U.S. mainland. The USVI Department of Tourism, the USVI Economic Development Authority and the VI Department of Education have donated \$150,000 to UVI to support the program.



Male Motivation

Members of UVI's Brothers With a Cause (BWC), St. Thomas campus chapter, listen to presenter Dr. Jerry Smith at a BWC Professional Seminar Luncheon on Nov. 19. Dr. Smith, a physical therapist, is CEO and owner of Therapy Works and is UVI's athletic trainer. He spoke to the young men about the importance of professionalism. Anthony Morton, a business relations manager at First Bank VI, also presented. He cited daunting statistics related to young black men in the United States. "Gentlemen, without a doubt, black men need college degrees now, more than ever before," Morton said. "You guys are at UVI and this is the way to go."

Road Trip Continued

the last game UVI lost 109-75 to the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, Va.

"I see the team getting stronger and stronger," Georges said, noting his seasoned seniors and new strong players. He said the biggest challenge is putting the old and new members together in a combination that wins games. Seniors Jeffers, Alvaro de Lugo III and Lesean Moses have been joined by Gerard, a transfer from the mainland, and freshmen Shamal Caines, Collin Pfindt, and Joshua Ogunmokun.

Georges promised that the Bucs will deliver "a new brand of basketball," with more up-tempo games and players taking more shots. After 4 years on the squad,

taking shots is still a challenge for Jeffers. "I never used to shoot," the guard said of his early days on the team. "I'm not a selfish player. I always pass the ball." But with increased pressure from Georges, Jeffers has begun to shoot more. "Now I put myself in a scoring position," said Jeffers, who will graduate in May with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration.

As for more road trips to the states, Georges said he would like to make them a yearly part of the pre-season, pending funding.

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