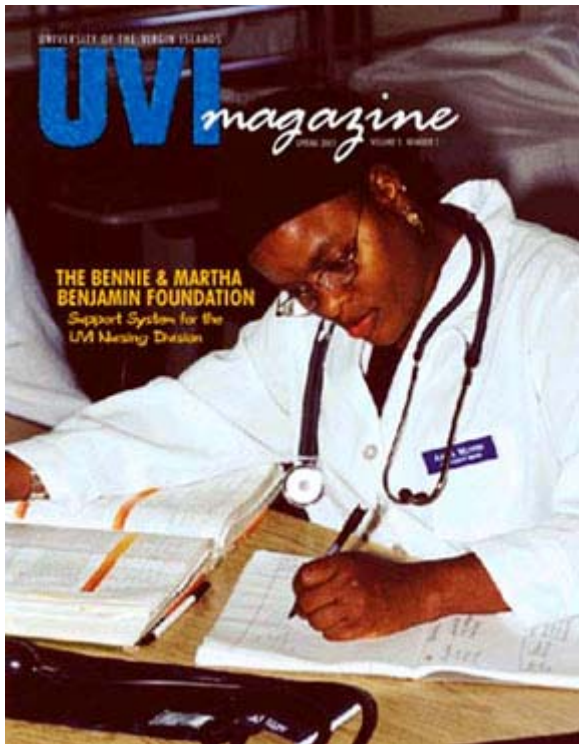
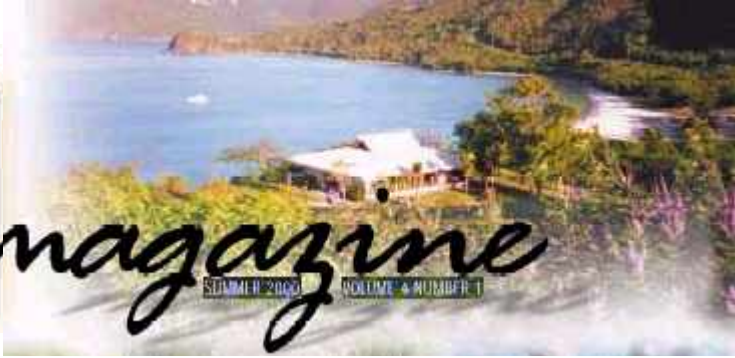


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UNIVERSITY OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

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FRONT COVER:

St. Croix nursing student, Aishah Mutidi

Photo : Tina Henle

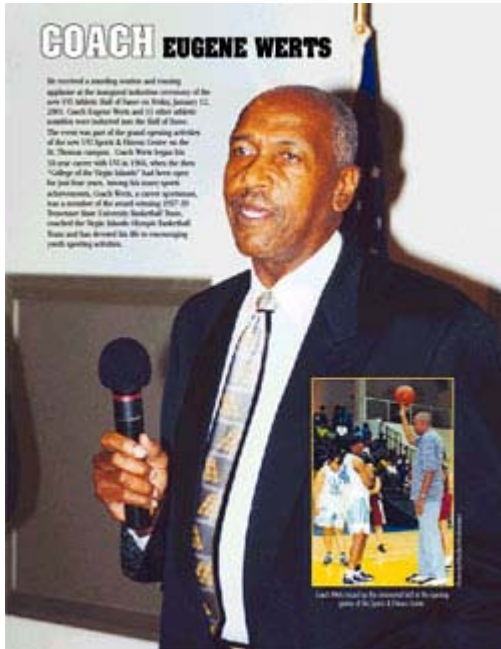


The Social Sciences Building, St. Thomas campus

BACK COVER:

Photo : Davida S. James

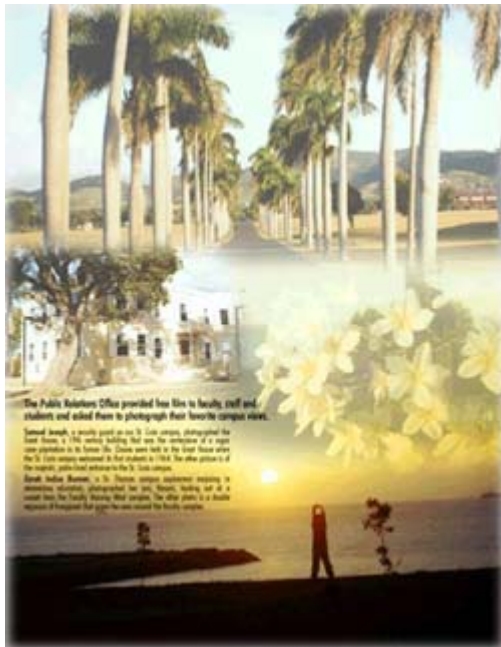
BACK INSIDE COVER



COACH EUGENE WERTS

He received a standing ovation and rousing applause at the inaugural induction ceremony of the new UVI Athletic Hall of Fame on Friday, January 12, 2001. Coach Eugene Werts and 13 other athletic notables were inducted into the Hall of Fame. The event was part of the grand opening activities of the new UVI Sports & Fitness Center on the St. Thomas campus. Coach Werts began his 30-year career with UVI in 1966, when the then "College of the Virgin Islands" had been open for just four years. Among his many sports achievements, Coach Werts, a career sportsman, was a member of the award-winning 1957-59 Tennessee State University Basketball Team, coached the Virgin Islands Olympic Basketball Team and has devoted his life to encouraging youth sporting activities.

FRONT INSIDE COVER



The Public Relations Office provided free film to faculty, staff and students and asked them to photograph their favorite campus views.

Samuel Joseph, a security guard on our St. Croix campus, photographed the Great House, a 19th century building that was the centerpiece of a sugar cane plantation in its former life. Classes were held in the Great House when the St. Croix campus welcomed its first students in 1964. The other picture is of the majestic, palm-lined entrance to the St. Croix campus.

Zarah Indica Bunner, a St. Thomas campus sophomore majoring in elementary education, photographed her son, Hasani, looking out at a sunset from the Faculty Housing West complex. The other photo is a double exposure of frangipani that grace the area around the faculty complex.

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MISSION:

To foster interest in and support for the University by sharing information with our internal and external communities about the people and events shaping the University of the Virgin Islands.

EDITOR'S CORNER

by: Davida Siwisa James

OVER-THE-HUMP...



Wednesday is often referred to as 'over-the-hump day.' It's that magical, midway point in the week when you know you're on your way to Friday and the weekend. And when you hit Friday, it's 'TGIF' day or 'Thank God it's Friday.'

On university campuses, January, and the return after the holiday break, is that 'over-the-hump' period in the academic year. That's when you know you're halfway to graduation, to the end of the school year, to summer break. And whether you're faculty, staff or student, that halfway mark is a pivotal point in the year. Everything changes. People walk differently and think and feel differently. There are activities, at that over-the-hump period, that kick into high gear.

I suddenly find myself at a lot more meetings come January. There is the catalog committee, where we slice and dice and add to the upcoming catalog, the commencement committee, where we spend four months making sure the two-hour ceremony is flawless. It's a seasonal thing, over-the-hump month and more committee work. And, it signifies seasonal events and changes that set the pulse of the campus. People start reflecting on the past semester, anticipating the current one and doing the advance work for the fall. People are planning for summer vacations or summer school or summer jobs.

I've asked many seniors through the years, "looking forward to graduation?" Invariably, four-foot grins break out on their faces. That last semester when you're a graduating senior is Nirvana time. Grad school awaits or two weeks at the family cabin or sunning on a different beach than the ones in the Virgin Islands or interning at a promising company or trying to figure out what to do now that the comfort and safety of school is coming to an end. Because it's really 'over-the-hump' time for seniors. It's time to enter the real world.

But, after the commencement ceremony, another seasonal change takes place. The day after graduation equals summer break. Forget about the fact that June 20-something is the official beginning of summer. Graduation equals summer break at a university. The campus becomes devoid of students. At first, you begin to appreciate that it's easier to park. The cafeteria and other eating places are quieter and easier to get into. If your office is in a classroom building, you appreciate that you don't have to zig-zag through students sitting on the steps or listen to outbursts of boisterous laughter when you're trying to get to that next meeting.

But... that's not right. For as much as parking is easier and the halls quieter, the quiet is wrong. Weaving through students, their laughter and spontaneity is what makes a campus tick. And it's what makes some of us feel young. It's youth by osmosis. During the summer, faculty and staff get to recoup. Hopefully, we get to set up the files for the next academic year. We get to go on long, much-needed vacations that are impossible to take during the

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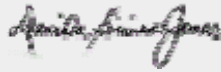
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hectic school year. The Physical Plant is busy making the repairs to classrooms and dorms that will make everything seem bright and new in the fall. The Enrollment Management staff is dealing with last-minute issues on incoming new students. The catalogs that we made all those meticulous edits to arrive. But, we miss our students. Then, August comes. Orientation packets are prepared, new sheets and pillows await the students in the dorms, the floors are waxed and the syllabi revised and reprinted. The bookstore manager receives that last shipment of books. Assuming they haven't become dot com millionaires over the summer, the faculty come back. They've trekked across the Himalayas, meditated with the Dalai Lama, knocked off the next great novel or finished up another class or two towards their Ph.D.s.

And, then.....They're baaaaaaaack. The students are back. The halls are crowded again, young people are shouting their hellos - 'hailing each other up,' as we say in the Virgin Islands. The new students look a little lost, trying to find the right buildings and the returning ones look savvy. The campus is clicking again. Everything's right again. Thank God it's August.



Davida Siwisa James
Editor - in - Chief
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