



dateline: UVI

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(Left to right) UVI's President-Elect Dr. LaVerne Ragster and retiring President Orville Kean greet the crowd from atop UVI's float in St. Thomas Carnival Adult's Parade on April 27; jamming to the tunes, a reveler dressed in a costume representing Music Education; and a reveler dressed in a costume representing Engineering and Science sways to the sounds.

IT WAS MASS MEHSON!

UVI Carnival Troupe's spectacular entry in the 2002 St. Thomas Carnival Adult's Parade earned not one, but two prizes. The troupe won second place in the "Troupe 50-100" division with its entry, "Celebrating 40 Years of Learning," and its float took second place in the "Floats" division with the entry titled, "CVI to UVI." This is a tremendous accomplishment considering 2002 was Carnival's 50th Anniversary and there were a record 69 parade entries. The prizes come at a historic time – the Golden Jubilee of St. Thomas Carnival. Also a winner was retiring UVI humanities professor Dr. Gilbert Sprauve, who won first place with his individual entry titled, "Divi Casino and Don Gil Present Ring Roogoodoo."

UVI Marine Advisor Wins EPA Award



Mayra Suarez-Velez

Mayra Suarez-Velez, a marine advisor at the University of the Virgin Islands, received a 2002 Environmental Quality Award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for her outstanding commitment to protecting and enhancing environmental quality in the region.

As a marine advisor at UVI's Virgin Islands Marine Advisory Service (VIMAS), her focus has been on educating the public

about marine issues.

"I don't consider it my award," Suarez-Velez said, "it is a VIMAS award for the work I have done at UVI. I'm very excited to know that what we've been doing has the quality to be recognized nationally by the EPA."

Suarez-Velez has led more than 20 educational workshops using the Caribbean Watershed Non-Point Source Pollution model, showing students and teachers how the things people do on land affect the ocean.

Suarez-Velez also oversaw the creation of "Detective Goo-too" a comic book about preventing water pollution and "Children and the Sea" a coloring book on ocean care and conservation.

Events Calendar

May 27	UVI Closed: Memorial Day
June 6	Education Division Workshop-STT

Oh, Oh, Oh: It's Tom Joyner Month at UVI



Meet Tom Joyner and Crew

While their cruise ship is docked in the Charlotte Amalie Harbor, Tom Joyner and crew will have a few precious hours to spend on St. Thomas. And here is your chance to be part of that time! Come have lunch with Tom Joyner and crew from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, May 29, at Bluebeard's Castle Hotel's Town Hall. Meet the 'Fly Jock' himself and find out why he's "the hardest working man in radio."

Tickets are \$40 and are available at UVI bookstores on St. Thomas and St. Croix and on St. Thomas in the UVI Institutional Advancement Office, Modern Music in Nisky Center and Havensight, Parrot Fish on Back Street, Sweet Kisses in Tutu Park Mall, the Reichhold Center Box Office and St. John Drug Center on St. John. For more information call Deborah Hamilton at **693-1042**.

Caps for Cash

The race is on to see which UVI component will collect the most Coca-Cola product bottle caps during May for the "Caps for Cash" campaign. In an effort to raise scholarship money, Coca-Cola will donate \$1,000 to UVI for each six-foot-tall bin of bottle caps collected. UVI has engaged the entire Virgin Islands community in collecting bottle caps from Coca-Cola products, which include Coke, Minute Maid, Fruitopia, PowerAde, Sprite, Nestea and Dasani Water.

If you are not part of the component competition, drop your bottle caps off at the Public Relations or Institutional Advancement Offices on St. Thomas or to Student Housing on St. Croix.

The "Caps for Cash" campaign is part of the Tom Joyner Foundation Scholarship Campaign. The foundation will raise scholarship money for UVI during May.

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Scholarships Galore

Congratulations to UVI's 47 students who received a combined total of \$92,152 in scholarships, five laptop computers and four desktop computers from corporate sponsors of the Tom Joyner Foundation. The cash scholarship for each student ranged from \$1,500 to \$2,500 and nine students received computers.

"It is an honor to have our turn come around to be the HBCU to receive scholarship funds from the Tom Joyner Foundation," said Ardrina Scott-Elliott, chairwoman of UVI's Scholarship Committee.

"It extended an effort to so many of our international students who are sometimes unrepresented in scholarship selections," she said, noting that about 14 international students received scholarships. Scholarships from corporate sponsors represent only a portion of funds UVI will receive from the Tom Joyner Foundation. "I am so excited," Scott-Elliott said.

Kean and Kirwan Honored

UVI's President Orville Kean and UVI Vice President for Administration and Finance Malcolm Kirwan were honored at the Annual St. Thomas-St. John Chamber of Commerce Awards Banquet on May 4. The two were among five others receiving recognition for their many years of community service at the Chamber's Diamond Anniversary Celebration.

Cassan Pancham, President of the St. Thomas-St. John Chamber of Commerce, said that Dr. Kean's stewardship was marked with strong investment and enhancement of the institution's physical structure, advancement in technology and a significant growth of student exchange programs. Dr. Kean's career has spanned more than 36 years at UVI.

Pancham said that Mr. Kirwan has led the efforts to acquire the funding for the major capital improvement programs undertaken by the University over the past decade. Mr. Kirwan has been at UVI since 1971.

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