

Virgin Islands to host CARIFTA 2010...NACAC Half-Marathon Championships 2009...NACAC Cross-Country Championships 2011...

The North America, Central America and Caribbean Athletic Confederation (NACAC) has awarded three of its championship competitions to the Virgin Islands. They include: The 2010 CARIFTA Championships to be held in St.Thomas; The NACAC Half-Marathon Championships 2009 to be held in St.Croix and The NACAC Cross-Country Championships 2011 to be held in St.Croix.

These announcements were in conjunction with the NACAC Bahamas Summit held in Nassau, Bahamas October 23 to 25.

Lavern Jones finishes on top in South America...1st in 100m, season best in 200m...

The Virgin Islands Track and Field Federation announced today that Virgin Islands Olympian and national record holder, Laverne Jones took first place in the 100 meters and second place in the 200 meters at the prestigious "Grande Prêmio São Paulo/Caixa de Atletismo", held at the track of the "Estádio Ícaro de Castro Melo" in São Paulo.

Jones won the 100 in 11.35, beating Brazilian Lucimar Moura (11.37) and American Wylleshia Myrick (11.41). Seventeen year-old Brazilian Rosângela Santos was fourth, also with 11.41, setting a personal best. Santos, silver medalist of the 2007 World Youth Championships, is one of the main hopes of her country for the upcoming World Junior Championships.

Two hours after the 100m Jones was second in the 200m with a season best of 22.89, while American Debbie Dunn was third with 22.90. Jamaican Shelly-Ann Fraser posted the best result of the female track events in São Paulo. The 21 year-old won the 200m (wind -0.3) with a solid PB of 22.83.

V.I.'s Tabarie Henry, Terry Charles and David Walters leaders at national junior college championships.

The Virgin Islands Track and Field Federation announced recently that three V.I. junior college athletes had very strong performances at the National Junior College Championships at South Plains Junior College in Texas.

Tabarie Henry, qualifier for the 400m for the Beijing Olympics, led the qualifiers in the event at the championships this weekend with a time of 45.56 in a photo finish with Renny Quow of South Plains. In the finals, also a photo-finish, Quow edged Henry in 45.54 to 45.56.

Henry joined his Barton Community College and V.I. national teammate Terry Charles as anchor in the 4 x 400m relay to take first in the nation with a time of 3:07.

Charles had a strong 1:51 in the 800m preliminary round and then helped his teams 4 x 800m relay to a second place in the nation final in 7:46.42.

David Walters, V.I. National Team member, a graduate of Charlotte Amalie High School in St.Thomas and a freshman at Wallace State Community College, finished fourth in the nation in the 100m with a time of 10.52

South Plains won the men's title as National Junior College champions and Barton Community was third, Wallace State men finished eleventh. South Plains has three athletes from the V.I., Lester Liburd, Gustino Fyfield and Calvin Dasent from the St. Croix Educational Complex High School in St. Croix, they did not compete in the national championships.

Top V.I. high school runner out runs pro triathletes in The Virgin Islands Pace Runners--Paradise 5k exciting as close finish as triathletes and runners tune-up for St. Croix Half-Ironman Triathlon...

5-2-2008 St. Croix, Virgin Islands--Seymour Walter of the Junior Baracudas Track Club/St.Croix Educational Complex High School trimmed nearly a minute off his time in the race last year to take first place in the 20th Paradise 5K at the Buccaneer Resort in St.Croix, Virgin Islands. The group of close to 80 runners led by pro triathlete Al Sultan Farris of Munich, Germany, hit the mile mark in 5:40. Walter was on his heels in 5:44. Farris led most of the race until the last 800 meter loop which is flat and takes the runners along the coast, Farris hesitated as he anticipated the finish too early and was overtaken by Walters who has used his track speed to carry him to victory. Dion Harrison of St.Croix was third in 18:06; Prefontaine Tyler of USA was fourth in 18:44; and Todd Feastal of USA was fifth in 19:15.

Triathlete Felicity Hart, of Colsterworth, Grantham, England, led the women all the way to first place with an excellent time on a very difficult course of 18:59. Ruth Ann David, of St.Thomas and the top local runner was less than a minute behind the winner with a time of 18:49; Theresa Harper of St.Croix was third in 22:08; Merille Smith of the St.Croix Track Club was fourth in 22:42 and Cynthia Lyons of St.Augustin, Florida was fifth in 24:02.

The Paradise 5K has been a feature of triathlon week from the beginning of the popular St. Croix triathlon from 1988. It provides runners, particularly local runners and triathletes the opportunity to race against some of the world's top triathletes while serving as training for the run segment of the triathlon which uses the same beautiful yet challenging Bucceneer Resort run course.

For race photos click on Picture Gallery

For complete results logon to: V.I. Pace Runners <http://virginislandspace.org>

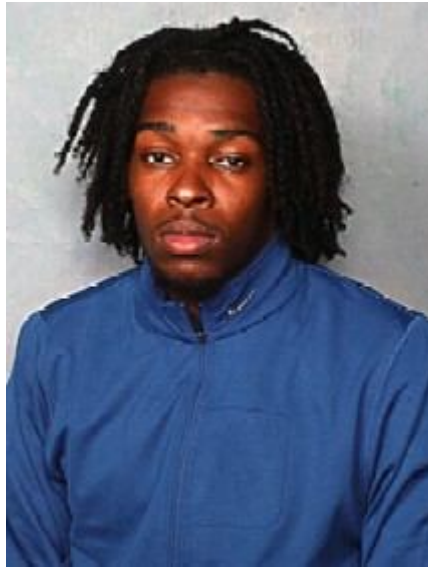
Your assistance needed for completion of IAAF Annual Report...

We have had an active and successful year for track and field. V.I. National Teams competed in the CAC Age Group Championships in El Salvador, The NACAC Senior Championships in El Salvador, The CARIFTA Championships in Turk & Caicos Islands, The Pan Am Junior Championships in Sao Paulo, Brazil, The Carolina Classic in Carolina, Puerto Rico, The Frankie Colon Memorial in Ponce Puerto Rico, The Barbados National Championships in Bridgetown, Barbados, The Bislett Meet in Oslo, Norway, The NACAC Cross-Country Championships in Orlando, Florida, The Pan American Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, The World Championships in Osaka, Japan, The World Master Championships in Italy and numerous other local, regional and international competitions.

Congratulations to the athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers who helped make the year one of unprecedented participation and success.

As we near the end of the year it a requirement of the IAAF, the NACAC and the VIOC that the national federations report the activities of the past year so as to remain in good standing and be eligible for support

including financial support. To that end, the Federation will be seeking input from you in the next few weeks for that report. In addition, it is time for the renewal of the annual registration for athletes, coaches, officials and member organizations. Your continued support of the efforts to further develop our sport in the Virgin Islands is most appreciated. Your full cooperation in that endeavor is required.



Tabarie Henry qualifies for Beijing Olympics 400m

4-20-08 The Virgin Islands Track and Field Federation announced today that Tabarie Henry qualified for the Beijing Olympics on Saturday by running 45.42 for the 400 meters at the John Mc Donnell Invitational at the University of Arkansas. Henry a student athlete at Barton County Community College in Kansas, had his best performance for the early outdoor season after running a world's fastest indoor times early in the year for the event. Henry's time placed him second in the event on Saturday behind Andreotti Bain of Oral Roberts University who ran 45.38. The time meets the "A" Standard for the event and puts in the thick of the elite runners in the world.

Adrian Durant got closer to qualifying for the Olympics with a time of 10.40 in the 100m at the International Friendship and Freedom Games at North Carolina A&T University.

Terry Charles a middle distance runner also at Barton, had a personal best in the 800m with a time of 1:51.98 also at the John Mc Donnell Invitational.

Tabarie Henry has incredible performance indoors...3rd fastest 400m in the world!

The Virgin Islands Track and Field Federation announced today that last year, V.I.'s Tabarie Henry was looking for a college. This year He found one. The Barton Community College (same school Laverne Jones, V.I. Olympian, amassed several All-America and National Junior Championships) 400m specialist, ran a sizzling 46.28 at the Tyson Invitational at the University of Arkansas. He ran the time in the preliminaries to post the third fastest time in the world on the IAAF list. One of the top indoor meets in the U.S. with top and elite runners, Henry's time

was the fastest in the event with over 90 participants. He did not run in the finals. The time qualifies him for the IAAF World Indoor Championships to be held in Valencia, Spain in March. It is likely that he will pass on this competition and represent his college in the NJCAA National Championships which are run on the same weekend.

VITFF officials indicated that Henry is well on his way to qualifying for the Beijing Olympic Games when the outdoor season begins in the early spring. He needs a 45.95 to qualify.

Adrian Durant, also running at Tyson, was excited when he called to inform the Federation. "Tabarie ran a 46.28, the third fastest time in the world! Everybody here is like 'where did this guy come from', tell the Olympic Committee, he'll qualify for the Olympics, we might be able to put together a 4 x 400m relay teams with Tabari, David Walters, Calvin Dascant and myself, for sure if we can get Kenneth Telemarque back. We should be able to run 3:03 and that could get us in the Olympics". To qualify for the Olympics the team will need to rank in the top 16 fastest teams in the world.

NOTE: At the time of writing this Henry was third in the world. This listing changes as times are recorded by athletes the world over.



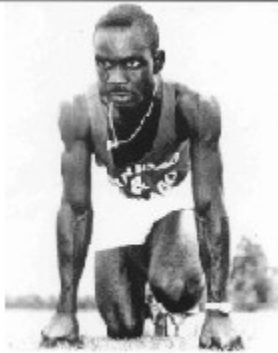
2007 World Athletics Gala – (l to r) Jamel Simohamed (IAAF Silver Order of Merit), IAAF President Lamine Diack, Amadeo Francis (IAAF Golden Order of Merit), Sunday 25 November 2007, Monaco.

Congratulations to Amadeo Francis...

The VITFF has the opportunity to recognize one of the most important individuals associated with track and field on the international level, ever. Amadeo Francis was honored by the IAAF in Monaco at the World Athletics Gala recently...we send him our heartfelt congratulations for all he has done for our sport...

This from the IAAF a short while ago...

"In recognition of a lifetime's dedication to the sport of athletics, especially in the field of development, Amadeo Francis was given the rare honour of the IAAF Golden Order of Merit at the recent IAAF World Athletics Gala in Monaco, under the gaze of IAAF President Lamine Diack, Prince Albert of Monaco and a glittering array of stars including the likes of Carl Lewis, Tyson Gay, Meseret Defar, Haile Gebrselassie, Paula Radcliffe and many others. The IAAF Golden Order of Merit is traditionally given only to Heads of State and legendary athletes, with Carl Lewis being a recipient in the past. IAAF President Diack, upon awarding the title to Mr Francis, said, on live TV, "This man has been working at my side on the IAAF Council since 1976. For me – Amadeo Francis IS the man who made our athletics development programme the envy of the world."



Cipriani Augustus Phillip, better known as "Cip," of Christiansted, St. Croix died in Orlando, Fla., on Sept. 16, 2007...many athletes he has coached, friends and family paid tribute at his memorial service and his funeral...



Click <http://osaka2007.iaaf.org/index.html> for coverage of the **Osaka World Championships** including video of events...timetable...start lists...athlete biographies...results...event highlights...interviews...and more...

2007 is an exciting year for track and field as a number of regional and international championships are scheduled. In effort to establish national teams including: youth, junior, open (senior) and masters, it is urgent that all athletes, coaches, volunteers, officials and member organizations complete the VITFF annual registration form and submit it along with a scanned copy of your passport. With these submittals you will receive your official VITFF registration card.

V.I. masters sprinters **Neville Hodge** and **Mc Donald Taylor** will compete in the 17th World Masters Championships in Riccione, Italy Sept. 4-15. For results logon to:
<http://www.riccione.wma2007.org/>

Adrian Durant finished first in his heat in the 100 meters in the preliminary rounds of the World University Games in Bangkok, Thailand with a time of 10.56, the third fastest time of the 8 preliminary races. In the quarter-finals he finished second with a time of 10.58 to advance to the semi-finals where he suffered from a strained quadricep muscle and did not advance to the finals. Durant has been slowed this track and field season with injury and missed the Pan Am Games...

In the **1st NACAC Senior Championships David Walter** ran personal bests in the 100m, 10:55 and 200m 22.22. He anchored the V.I.National 4 x 100m Relay team with **Adrian Durant**, **Dimitrius Jefferson** and **Julio Felix** which ran 40.84.

Congratulations to **Allison Peter** at the World Youth Championships, Ostrava, Czech Republic, personal bests in the 100m 11.98, 200m 24.35...these times qualify her for the 12th World Junior Championships for next year to be held in Bydgoszcz, Poland next summer...

Congratulations to **David Walters** then pb in the 100m 10.68 and **Calvin Dascent** for their efforts in the Junior Pan Am Championships in Sao Paulo, Brazil and good luck in El Salvador where they are joined by **Adrian Durant**, **Julio Felix** and **Dimitrius Jefferson** and **Valma Bass**...

July 7 is a special day for **Laverne Jones**, V.I. world-class sprinter...the Baracudas Track Club is hosting a fun-filled day to raise funds for Laverne at the Ag Fair Grounds in St. Croix...