

# VITFF

THE VIRGIN ISLANDS TRACK AND FIELD FEDERATION

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Jones-Ferrette and Henry advance...

1<sup>st</sup> Day Olympic competition historic for V.I...

V.I. Olympic Track and Field Team members Laverne Jones-Ferrette, Allison Peter and Tabarie made history on the first day of the Olympic Track and Field competition in London, England when they became the first V.I. Olympians to enter the competition with "A" Standard performances. Jones-Ferrette and Peter became the first two V.I. Females to do so in the 100m and the 200m (scheduled later) and Henry the first in the 400m.

On Friday Laverne Jones-Ferrette is the first female to advance to the Olympic Semi-Finals with a stellar performance in the 100m where she broke her own national record with a 11.07 for second place in her heat. The semi-final which will be held later today matches the absolute fastest female sprinters in the world currently including: Carmelita Jeter USA; Veronica Campbell-Browne Jamaica, Jones-Ferrette's junior college teammate and several other closely matched sprinters.

Tabarie Henry ran a gutsy 400m with a fourth place photo finish in his heat and a time of 45.43 out of lane three and became the first V.I. Olympian to advance to the semi-final in the event. He will have his work cut out for him in the semi



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as he will be running out lane one. Henry's teammate and friend Demetrius Pender of the Bahamas took first place in the heat with a 44.92; Brysom Nellom USA was second in 45.29 and Yousef Ahmed Masrahi of Saudi Arabia matched Henry's time of 45.43 to advance.

Allison Peter finished strong in her first Olympic race in the 100m but did not advance after having technical issues with her start to take seventh in her heat with a 11.41 (5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> recorded the same time in a tight race for those three spots). Up next for her is the 200m, her strongest event.

Notes:

1] in the 100m semi-final, the top two finishers in each of the three heats advance and the two with fastest times join them to make eight sprinters in the final. It is rare, if not unprecedented for a country as small as the Virgin Islands with population of around 100,000 to have two "A" standard athletes in the same event

2] in the 400m semi-final, the top two finishers in each of the three heats advance and the two with the fastest times join them to make eight sprinters in the final. It is rare, if not unprecedented for a country as small as the Virgin Islands with a population of around 100,000 to have three "A" standard athletes in three track and field competition.



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