Soccer Comes to UVI, 3 Fields to be Built on St. Croix

Soccer, one of the most popular sports around the world, will be coming to a campus near you. The University of the Virgin Islands has started a varsity soccer program, with official team play scheduled for the Fall 2011 semester. The team will be based on UVI's Albert A. Sheen Campus on St. Croix. A state-of-the-art soccer complex will also be built on the campus on St. Croix. The complex will include a competition field and two practice fields.

“Soccer is important because it is really big on St. Croix,” said UVI's Athletic Director Peter Sauer, who for years has sought another varsity sport to add to the campus. “The soccer field should be, by far, the best soccer field in the territory,” Sauer added. It is being built with $300,000 from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 funds, he said. The soccer complex is expected to be completed by Fall 2012. The UVI Soccer Team will be coached by Yohannes Worede.

UVI’s varsity teams compete in the Liga Atlética Interuniversitaria (LAI), a university league based in Puerto Rico. LAI consists of twenty U.S. accredited universities.

UVI to Offer 46 Video Conference Classes on St. John

The University of the Virgin Islands will begin offering classes at the St. John Academic Center for the Fall 2011 semester. A total of 46 credit courses will be offered using video conference technology at the newly opened center located on the third floor of The Marketplace shopping center. UVI’s Fall 2011 semester begins on August 22.

“The University is all about providing educational access to the residents of the Territory,” said UVI’s Provost Dr. Karl Wright. “The St. John Academic Center will provide ready access to the residents of St. John. It will make it easier for students and others to get access to higher education,” he said. UVI deans and department chairs selected the courses that are being offered for the Fall semester, Dr. Wright said.

New student registration at the St. John Academic Center will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 16. Online registration is underway for matriculated...
UVI Starts Summer Bridge Program to Ease Freshmen Transition

The University of the Virgin Islands will make it easier for recent high school graduates to transition into their roles as UVI freshmen this fall with the new Summer Bridge Program. Beginning on July 4, 40 students on St. Thomas and 40 on St. Croix will spend four weeks living on campus and taking writing, speech, reading and math courses. They will also attend seminars and workshops on college life, facility expectations and career planning. Recreational, social and cultural activities are also planned. The Summer Bridge Program is intended to jump-start students’ college careers by equipping them with the skills necessary for success.

“Many incoming freshmen are not prepared to take college level Math and English courses that count toward graduation requirements. As a result, such students often spend one or two semesters taking preparatory (skills) courses before being eligible to take the credit-bearing college courses,” said Dr. Haldane Davies, special assistant to UVI President Dr. David Hall. Courses in the Summer Bridge Program are designed to assist the students in being successful on the UVI placement tests.

Former UVI Provost Dr. Gwen-Marie Moolenaar is contracted to develop the program.

Funding from the U.S. Department of Education has allowed UVI to offer the program free of charge to the students.

Soccer Continued

In addition to hosting home games for the UVI Soccer Team, Sauer hopes the new complex will create ties between UVI and other universities on the mainland and boost the economy of the Virgin Islands through soccer tournaments, similar to Paradise Jam. Paradise Jam is an annual tournament that attracts top National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I schools. Now in its 11th year at the Sports and Fitness Center on UVI’s St. Thomas campus, the tournament attracts hundreds of people to the territory each November.

UVI currently fields varsity men’s and women’s teams in the following sports: basketball, volleyball, tennis, cross-country, swimming, track and field and table tennis. UVI also offers a variety of intramural sports activities on both campuses.

UVI is a corresponding member of the NCAA and a member of the Caribbean University Sports Association (CUSA).

St. John Academic Center Continued

or current UVI students for Fall semester classes.

Students should expect state-of-the-art video conference technology, laptops for loan, reference services, center advising, tutorial services, interlibrary loans and fax services at the St. John Academic Center, said Rachelle Shells, UVI's manager of Learning Resources and Student Technology Services. Shells said to also expect an "ultra-modern décor."

A full list of courses being offered at the St. John Academic Center is available on the Academics webpage of the UVI website www.uvi.edu. To register for classes or to apply to UVI visit the UVI website at www.uvi.edu.