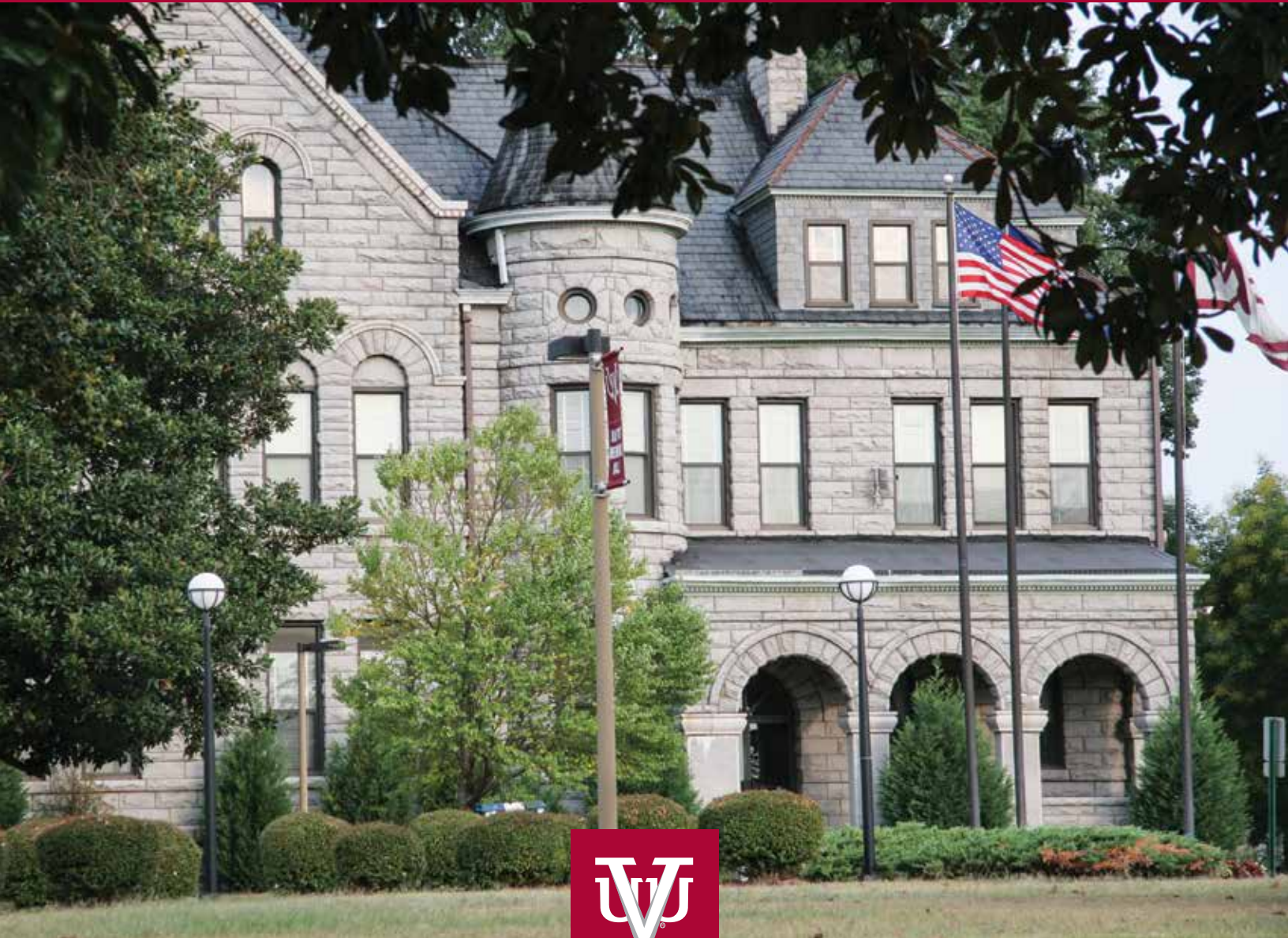


FALL 2013 / UNIVERSITY NEWS

UNIONITE

VIRGINIA UNION UNIVERSITY



**114TH VUU
COMMENCEMENT**

PAGE 4

**VUU'S SUMMER
FACELIFT**

PAGE 10

**NOTED AUTHOR
SIMEON BOOKER**

PAGE 30

VUU From The President

After completing more than four years as Virginia Union University's 12th president, I would like to personally thank all of our alumni and supporters who have contributed to the progress of our beloved university. As a result of your support, we have been able to become a fully accredited institution, provide \$6 million of campus improvements, support faculty publishing efforts, and provide first class learning experiences for students. In this issue of the *Unionite*, you will learn about the many improvements taking place this summer, including all new student furnishings in Storer Hall and a total facelift for Wall Auditorium. I am proud to announce the first Fulbright Scholar from Virginia Union during my presidency and we have several stories about student research experiences.

This edition of the *Unionite* is dedicated to the graduating class of 2013 and to a great alumnus and American treasure in the person of Mr. Simeon Booker, a 1942 graduate of Virginia Union University. In his role as a renowned journalist for *Jet* magazine, he did his part in helping America to become a more transparent and democratic society. His legacy of leadership in the world of journalism will always be remembered at Virginia Union University.

As we connect the future with the past, the stories of our alumni and their accomplishments will be told with a sense of pride to serve as encouragement to our future graduates as they find their place of prominence in the great history of Virginia Union University. It is our tradition to recognize and celebrate the 50th anniversary of a previously graduated class each year during the graduation ceremony. This is our way of providing real examples of how students can achieve and exceed in their future endeavors. This year we are proud to honor the Class of 1963.

We hope that all of our readers will find the content of this issue of the *Unionite* to be informative as we share some of the very fine moments of the past semester on these hallowed grounds and dear old walls at Virginia Union University. So, please enjoy and we will see you very soon at some of our fall events, including Homecoming and the Christmas Concert. Your presence and support are vital to our continuing growth and prominence.

Claude G. Perkins

Claude G. Perkins, Ph.D.
President



VUU Board of Trustees



The Honorable Cleo E. Powell, Justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia administered the oath of office to new officers of the Virginia Union University Board of Trustees on July 11, 2013. Pictured in the photo from left to right are Secretary Shirley Vaughn, Vice Chairman Steve Bullock, and Chairman Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson. Treasurer Jerome Lienhard is pictured at right.



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UNIONITE

VIRGINIA UNION UNIVERSITY

FALL 2013 / UNIVERSITY NEWS

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VUU needs your commitment and support. To make an ongoing difference in the lives of our students, contact the Division of Institutional Advancement at 804.342.3938 or use the envelope enclosed in this issue for your convenience.

COMMENCEMENT 2013



VUU Class Of 2013 Celebrated During Baccalaureate and Commencement Ceremonies

“Without a trained and inspired heart, you will go nowhere . . . your ability to think is the only thing that will break the fetters of a society that is hell bent on reducing you to a thoughtless animal . . . an animal that can be swayed in any direction simply by a word on the radio, a beat in a song, or an image on the monitor.”

With those powerful and perceptive words for thought, Rev. Dr. Calvin Butts, III addressed a crowd of graduates and their families, along with Virginia Union faculty, staff, alumni, and friends during the university's 114th Annual Baccalaureate Service. The pastor of Abyssinian Baptist Church in New York said he was overwhelmed to stand in historic Coburn Hall, where his mentor for 17 years, Dr. Samuel DeWitt Proctor, once stood as president of Virginia Union.

Dr. Butts, who is also president of the State University of New York (SUNY) College at Old Westbury, told the Class of 2013 that their education at Virginia Union gave them a distinct advantage. “Cogito Ergo Sum . . . I think therefore I am,” said Dr. Butts. One of the crowning features of education is to encourage

you to develop that capacity, lest you be reduced to a beast.”

Award winning actor Delroy Lindo continued to share life lessons on Saturday, May 11 at Virginia Union's 2013 Commencement Ceremony. Lindo said that while he is proud of his NAACP Image Award and his Tony and Drama Desk Award nominations, he is equally proud of his recent work toward a master's degree at New York University. “So I can honestly say to you, in terms of what achievement goals you set for yourself, that it is never, ever too late,” he added.

Lindo told the graduates that one big life lesson for him is that you never know who's watching you. For that reason, he advised the Class of 2013 to do their very best at whatever job they encounter, even if it's not their ultimate career goal.

The university awarded 162 undergraduate degrees and 149 graduate degrees, a record number for the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of

Theology. A record 18 football players were among the 34 student-athletes receiving degrees.

Honorary degrees were presented to Virginia Union alumni Dr. Yvonne Maddox, Deputy Director of the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development at the National Institutes of Health; and Rev. Thurman Echols, Sr., pastor of Moral Hill Missionary Baptist Church. Former Attorney General Richard Cullen, who is currently chairman of McGuire Woods LLP, also received an honorary degree, along with Mr. Lindo.



COMMENCEMENT 2013









VUU Gala Is Richmond's Premier Event

More than 700 guests dined and danced late into the evening at The First Annual Virginia Union Scholarship Gala and Masquerade Ball hosted by Mayor Dwight C. Jones on April 12, 2013. The event was held at The Richmond Marriott Hotel to raise scholarship money for students at Virginia Union and to recognize Virginia Union's nearly 150 years of educational excellence in the Greater Richmond community.

Local dignitaries included the Honorable L. Douglas Wilder, Congressman Bobby Scott, Sen. Henry Marsh, Delegate Delores McQuinn, Delegate Jennifer McClellan, and Councilman Chris Hilbert. Presenting sponsor for the evening was Dominion. Supporting sponsors included SunTrust, Altria, McGuireWoods, Mead Westvaco, Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield, Investment Management of Virginia, Thompson Hospitality, Henrico County Board of Supervisors, JRW General Contracting, and NBC 12.

Music was provided by TRADEMARK with special performances during dinner by Ms. Charmaine Hunter, Glenroy Bailey, and Jumohny Walker. Lisa Schaffner and Vanessa Coombs served as mistresses of ceremony for the evening.

Please join us for next year's gala on
April 11, 2014 at the Richmond Marriott Hotel!

One of the most noticeable renovations this fall will be the VUU Police Security Booth at the Graham Road entrance to campus. Cost of new construction: \$140,000.



VUU Campus Gets Summer Facelift to the Tune of \$ 2.5 Million



More than \$560,000 will be spent on Storer Hall for replacement of furniture in all student rooms, bathroom renovations, interior painting, flooring repairs and replacements, repairs to the elevator, and replacement of the fire alarm control panel.

Historic Coburn Hall will receive upgraded stage and performance lighting at a cost of \$97,000.



Ellison Hall's Wall Auditorium will be upgraded with all new seats, audio-visual equipment and lighting. Cost: \$425,000. Ellison will also receive new windows, partitions, and lighting at a cost of \$200,000. Laboratory facility and equipment upgrades in Ellison will be made at a cost of \$860,000.



Exterior flood lighting will be installed in order to highlight the historic Belgian Building tower at a cost of \$30,000.



VUU Choir Renews Time-Honored Tradition

Virginia Union University (VUU) alumni and friends throughout the country are thrilled that the VUU Choir is on the road again. Forty members of the choir were selected by VUU Choral Director Dr. Willis Barnett to perform at three churches in three states during spring break 2013. On March 18, the choir performed at Grace Baptist Church in Mount Vernon, New York; on March 19, they performed at Union Baptist Church in Stamford, Connecticut; and Bethlehem Baptist Church hosted the talented students on March 20.

“It brought tears to my eyes,” said Catherine Vaughn, VUU Class of 1975. Vaughn attended the choir’s performance at Union Baptist in Connecticut. “It brought back many memories of college ... going to classes, staying up late doing papers, living in the dorm, the partying, the football games.”

“We got standing ovations every night,” said VUU sophomore and choir member Justin-Mychal White. “It was a great feeling...a chance for us to shine a

positive light on VUU outside the state of Virginia.”

Choir tours started with Fisk, Hampton, and Virginia Union universities in the late 1800’s, according to Director Barnett. “It’s great for recruitment and great for students,” said Dr. Barnett. “This is the face of the university...the band, the choir, athletics. It’s the first thing the public looks for.”

“It is wonderful to see it start again,” said Dr. Carolyn Mosby, VUU Class of 1958. Mosby traveled and performed with the VUU Choir from 1954 to 1958. “Most of us had not had travel exposure. This was an awesome experience for a small town girl from Lynchburg.”

Mosby still comes to the VUU campus to hear the choir in concert. She was in attendance at the spring concert held



Dr. Barnett worked with Virginia Union President Dr. Claude G. Perkins to reinstate the choir tours after they were discontinued several years ago due to reorganization of the music department.

on April 18. “It was perfection...the balance of voices in the choir and the different genres of music performed, exclaimed Mosby. “I’m just as excited about the choir as can be.”

VUU President Elected Chair of CIAA Board

Virginia Union University President Dr. Claude G. Perkins has been elected chair of the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association's (CIAA) Board of Directors. He will serve a two-year term, effective immediately and ending at the conclusion of the CIAA Annual Spring Meeting in 2015.

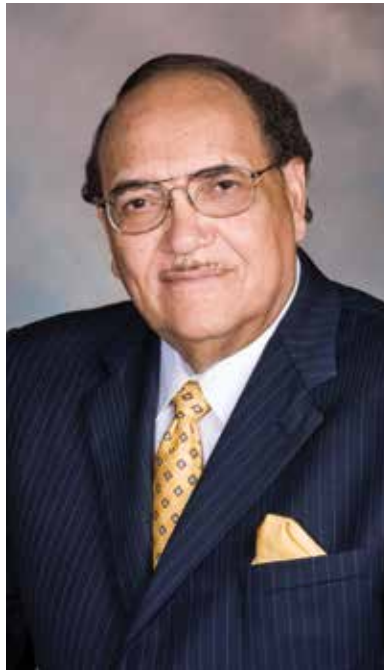
"We are very fortunate to have a tremendous breadth of talent and leadership among our board members," said Jacqie Carpenter, commissioner of the CIAA. "But perhaps more importantly, we have fantastic individuals

who share our commitment to developing supportive and challenging academic environments and who understand the value of athletics and the welfare of the student-athlete."

The CIAA Board of Directors, which governs the CIAA, is

"We are very fortunate to have a tremendous breadth of talent and leadership among our board members."

**— Jacqie Carpenter
CIAA Commissioner**



comprised of the 12 presidents and chancellors of its member institutions. Virginia State University President Dr. Keith T. Miller was elected vice-chair and Chowan University President Dr. M. Christopher White was elected secretary.

Virginia Union Board Chairman Elected to National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame

Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Virginia Union University, has been selected for induction into the 2013 Class of the National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame. The 28th Annual Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will be held September 27, 2013 in Atlanta, Georgia. This is the 28th annual induction ceremony held by the organization, which provides scholarships for students attending Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and highlights accomplishments of alumni of HBCUs.

Dr. Richardson received his undergraduate degree from Virginia Union University, as well as a Doctorate of Ministry from the United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio. He also earned a Doctor of Divinity from Yale University. Dr. Richardson is currently Senior Pastor of Grace Baptist Church in Mount Vernon, New York. Under his leadership, the congregation has grown to more than 4,000 members.

For 12 years, Dr. Richardson served as General Secretary of the eight-million-member National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. He also served on the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches, which represents more than 400 million Christians in 150 nations.



Virginia Union Professor Awarded Fulbright Scholarship

Dr. Carleitta Paige-Anderson, assistant professor of biochemistry at Virginia Union University, has been selected as a 2013-2014 Fulbright Senior Scholar.

Starting in February 2014, Dr. Paige-Anderson will teach science in Indonesia at Universitas Airlangga for a period of five months. Dr. Paige-Anderson will implement a teaching model that focuses on infectious disease, particularly tuberculosis, which is highly prevalent in Indonesia.

"I can use my background in infectious disease to teach these students broad scientific concepts, but also use this highly infectious organism that the students have to encounter on a regular basis as the model of teaching broad science," said Paige-Anderson. "What I am hoping is that this can be a platform to how we go about teaching science here at Virginia Union University."

Established in 1946 by then Senator J. William Fulbright, the program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Currently, the Fulbright Program operates in more than 155 countries worldwide and approximately 300,000 Fulbrighters have participated.

Dr. Paige-Anderson received her Bachelor of Science in Biology from Virginia Union University in 2003 and her Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from Wake Forest University School of Medicine in 2008.



"I can use my background in infectious disease to teach these students broad scientific concepts, but also use this highly infectious organism that the students have to encounter on a regular basis as the model of teaching broad science,"
 — Dr. Carleitta Paige-Anderson

Samuel Dewitt Proctor School of Theology Provides New Home for The Resource Center

Virginia Union University's Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology is proud to be the new home of The Resource Center (TRC), a collection of nearly 14,000 teaching resources to be used in ministry by churches, schools, agencies, and individuals. Located on the fourth floor of Kingsley Hall, The Resource Center also houses the Joseph V. Nash Multicultural Collection, the Isabel W. Rogers Women's Resource Collection, and the Naomi Wray Art Collection.

TRC includes many archival materials for scholarly research, but the Center is primarily for pastors, educators, and lay leadership of local congregations. "Other places around the country wanted to house TRC, which includes the Joseph V. Nash Multicultural Collection," said Center Director Dr. Judith Bennett.

Joseph Nash was an African American educator who was an important voice in Christian Education at the National Council of Churches. His collection is nationally known as a source of information about multicultural education, according to Dr. Bennett. Nash required



Dr. Bennett reviews TRC resources with students.

that the collection be located in a center of theological education, and that it always be available to the local African American community. "It feels like it's coming home now," Dr. Bennett added.

"The Resource Center offers a prized, useable collection which will be a major asset for our students and provides educational materials and learning opportunities for Christian educators

throughout the region," explained Dr. John Kinney, Dean of the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology. "The Center's presence on our campus will support our commitment to being a vibrant community of reflection and action where the diverse 'church' gathers for equipping, study, and preparation for service to the church and the world."

VUU Placed on President's Community Service Honor Roll

For the fourth year in a row, Virginia Union University has been named to the 2013 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll by the Corporation for National and Community Service.

The 2013 Honor Roll recipients were announced at the American Council on Education's 95th Annual Meeting on March 4, 2013 in Washington, D.C. Launched in 2006, the Honor Roll recognizes institutions that achieve meaningful, measurable outcomes in the communities they serve.

"Community engagement helps our students realize that we are a stronger society when we work together by accepting responsibility for our community's wellbeing by reaching out to help our neighbors and thus ourselves,"

said Claudia Wall, VUU Director of Community Relations/Student & Community Services.

Last year, Virginia Union students volunteered 14,614 community service hours. The students work with numerous organizations in the Greater Richmond area, but one particular event stands out in Wall's memory, Project Homeless Connect, a day of volunteer activity aimed at providing housing, healthcare, and employment assistance for the homeless. "The students' impression of the homeless population was forever changed because of their volunteer experiences on that one day of service," explained Wall. "They had no idea that life's circumstances could negatively impact individuals with advanced degrees to the point that they too could end up as a homeless person."

Wall says she has seen students change their majors as a result of their community service. "I'm positive that many of our students will be engaged in service throughout their lifetimes," she added. "In this program, we are not just counting hours, but making hours count."



VUU students volunteered with Project Homeless Connect.

Congratulations to Presidential Citation Award Winners for Outstanding Service



Ms. Renee Jolley, Executive Secretary to the President



Dr. Thomas Fensch, Chair, Department of Mass Communication



Dr. Yung Suk Kim, Assistant Professor of New Testament and Early Christianity, Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology



Ms. Barvenia Wooten-Cherry, Head Coach, Women's Basketball

Virginia Union Hosts Legacy Lecture Series

The National Black College Alumni (NBCA) Hall of Fame Foundation, Inc. hosted a panel discussion entitled “Educating Student Leaders to be Healthy, Wealthy, and Wise” on the campus of Virginia Union University on April 17, 2013. Panel members included Jeff Johnson, BET and MSNBC Correspondent; Susan Taylor, Editor-in-Chief Emeritus of Essence Magazine; Khephra Burns, playwright; and Andrea Riggs, physical fitness guru.

The goal of the panel discussion was to promote the development and enhancement of a well-rounded student. Panelists focused on the fiscal, physical, social, and spiritual aspects of the total

person. Financial literacy, obesity, use and abuse of alcohol, tobacco and drugs, and healthy lifestyles were among the topics discussed.

The event was part of NBCA Hall of Fame’s Legacy Lecture Series, which has appeared on Historically Black College (HBCU) campuses throughout the Southeast, reaching more than 15,000 students. The 2013 series traveled to the campuses of Lincoln University, North Carolina A&T University, Savannah State University, and Texas Southern University, in

addition to Virginia Union University.

“We were very pleased to bring the National Black College Alumni Hall of

“We were very pleased to bring the National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame Foundation’s Legacy Lecture Series program to Virginia Union, the oldest HBCU in the South.”

— Dr. Prince Brown

Fame Foundation’s Legacy Lecture Series program to Virginia Union, the oldest HBCU in the South,” said Executive Director Dr. Prince Brown. “Additionally, being part of the 8th Annual Drs. E.D. and Clara McCreary Lecture Series added special meaning and value to our program. We were honored

to share and take an active part in the weeklong observance and recognition of the two distinguished scholars for whom the VUU lecture series is named.”

The National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame Foundation, Inc. promotes the growth and development of Historically Black Colleges and Universities through scholarships, internships, training and technical assistance, alumni recognition, and programs to encourage humanitarian involvement.

The Hall of Fame presented a \$1,000 scholarship in support of Virginia Union’s E.D. and Clara McCreary Lecture Series and 12 book scholarships of \$100 each to VUU students.



Khephra Burns, Susan Taylor, and Thomas Dortch, Jr. share a laugh with VUU students.



Center for Small Business Development Holds Inaugural Event

Virginia Union University's Center for Small Business Development at the Sydney Lewis School of Business opened its doors to small business owners and entrepreneurs during its inaugural workshop on March 16, 2013. The workshop focused on the new Affordable Care Act, which makes it mandatory for all businesses to obtain health insurance for employees. Author and financial expert Aaron W. Smith discussed small business tax credits, cost containment, and small employer wellness programs.

The Center for Small Business Development was created to strengthen minority-owned businesses in the Richmond metropolitan area. Services offered include small business certification programs, small business seminars, workshops, outreach programs, entrepreneurship educational training, and an internship program which connects students with businesses and non-profit organizations.

Winning the Training Game

While the Virginia Union men's and women's basketball teams competed in Charlotte, North Carolina for the CIAA Basketball Championship title, students, faculty, staff, and administrators were on campus having a friendly competition of their own. On February 28, 2013 the Office of Career Services hosted "Winning the Training Game," a unique interactive, over-sized board game designed to increase knowledge and skills on academic and professional development topics such as marketing, job seeking, finance and banking, and human resources.

Participants were challenged to enhance critical thinking, dialogue and strengthen collaboration and teamwork efforts throughout the campus. "This inaugural



African American History Month event provided an opportunity for members of the VUU Family to celebrate the richness of our campus diversity," said Dr. Penni Sweetenburg-Lee, Director of Career Services. "The purpose of the event was to bring together representatives

from various divisions, schools, departments, disciplines, student groups, race, ethnicity, gender, roles and positions on campus to celebrate our diversity and to create teams without status or class intimidations."

The game consisted of two-member teams of student/staff, student/administrator and/or student/faculty that responded to questions on one of five game topics: leadership, ethics, job seeker, effective communication, marketing and personal finance. "There was pandemonium in the room and we had so much fun!" exclaimed Dr. Sweetenburg-Lee. "It was such a powerful teaching tool."

Kay Taylor, Founder of Winning The Training Game, LLC and her Training Consultants served as facilitators and judges as the team members went head to head, answering a range of questions, and earning "play" cash in order to win. "It was one of the most engaging, exciting, competitive and outstanding experiences that the Office of Career Services has hosted on the campus since my arrival in 2009," said Dr. Sweetenburg-Lee.



Mr. & Miss Virginia Union University 2013-2014

Congratulations to CraDale Waller & Cayla Cowherd on being crowned Mr. & Miss Virginia Union University 2013-2014.

CraDale O'Brien Waller is a native of Virginia and attended both Danville Public Schools and Pittsylvania County Schools. Waller is a senior majoring in Biology with plans to attend Meharry Medical College to obtain an M.D. in family medicine. He lives and stands on the platform: "Excellence in Action: Walk it. Talk it. Live it."

Cayla Rynee Cowherd is a native of Anchorage, Alaska. She has spent the last six years in Richmond, Virginia. Cowherd is a senior majoring in Entrepreneurial Management at the Sydney Lewis School of Business. She plans to own a full service beauty salon and earn a master's degree in Business Law from Howard University. Cowherd hopes to invoke a boundless mindset through her platform: "Fearless Achievers encouraging students to embrace their experiences from life."

Virginia Union Science Students Chosen For Meharry Medical College Summer Program

Nine Virginia Union University (VUU) science students were accepted into the Meharry Medical College Center of Excellence Bachelor of Science/Doctor of Medicine Program. The program is a six-week paid internship open to rising sophomores and juniors with a grade point average above 3.25. Students who are rising sophomores took courses at Meharry this summer and will return next summer for a preparation course for the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT).

"We are very blessed to have this program," said Dr. Shyamal Premaratne, Associate Professor of Anatomy and Physiology and Chairman of the Pre-Med Committee. "We can now tell our high performing students they have no constraints. Don't worry about how you're going to get there or where you are going to stay. This program takes care of all travel, lodging, food and the students receive a stipend." Dr. Premaratne added that once students complete the program with the requisite grade point average, they are guaranteed a spot at Meharry Medical College. "The impact is beyond words," he said.

Students accepted into the program include Ebelle Gaelle, Valencia Hines, Renee McGilvary, Angel Scott, Monique Stone, Shanice Cannon, Demetri Boston, Amber Tanksley, and Elodie Mawel. Also included in the photograph below are VUU Associate Professor Dr. Shyamal Premaratne, VUU Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Dr. Julius Scipio, and VUU President Dr. Claude G. Perkins.



Research is Key for VUU Students and Faculty

Virginia Union University student Ashley Green spent her summer a long way from her Rahway, New Jersey home and her vacation was far from relaxing, but she enjoyed every moment of it. Green, VUU senior La'Cheyla Blount, and VUU professor Dr. Carleitta Paige-Anderson spent the summer in a University of Minnesota laboratory researching molecular mechanisms in the bacterium *Mycobacteria avium* subspecies *paratuberculosis* (MAP). "MAP is the causative agent of Johne's disease in cattle and has been implicated in contributing to Crohn's disease in humans," said Dr. Paige-Anderson.

The National Center for Food Protection and Defense is housed at the University of Minnesota. The Center and the Department of Homeland Security sponsored the 10-week research program. "Research experience is extremely important for science majors," explained Dr. Paige-Anderson. "Science is a discipline of broad topics and concepts, but it is formal research inquiry that demonstrates the application of the concepts taught."



Pictured from left to right: La'Cheyla Blount, Dr. Carleitta Paige-Anderson, and Ashley Green.

"This is actually my second research experience," added Green. She also completed clinical research at the Richmond Ambulance Authority, where she analyzed data regarding asthma in children in Richmond, Virginia. Upon graduation, Green hopes to acquire a medical degree in obstetrics and gynecology. La'Cheyla Blount, a senior biology major, plans to become a pediatrician. "This is my first research experience outside of Virginia Union and it has allowed me to better understand the fundamentals I learned at Virginia Union," Blount said.

Both students learned about the summer research opportunity from their Virginia Union professor, Dr. Paige-Anderson. She completed a graduate fellowship at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and is a 2003 graduate of Virginia Union. "My return to VUU (as a professor) was a decision based on emotion," shared Dr. Paige-Anderson. "Thankful for the strength that this institution has provided me... I realized that my physical presence is not enough. I must use my skills to expose students to international science opportunities. To whom much is given, much is required."

Dr. Paige-Anderson and her students worked in the lab every weekday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., reading scientific manuscripts, conducting lab experiments, studying their research topics, and explaining corresponding concepts. “I had no knowledge about MAP or the large effect it has on dairy industries, ruminants, or its possible role in Crohn’s disease in humans,” explained Blount. “This program is a great experience.”

Research is critical to all disciplines, according to Dr. Paige-Anderson, because it increases students’ critical thinking capacities. “My experience suggests that students who are able to relate research topics to their personal interests are more likely to engage,” said Dr. Paige-Anderson. “This experience has allowed me to re-evaluate my approach to undergraduate research. I am considering the best method for helping students apply course concepts to research.” In this case, she added, it certainly didn’t hurt that their research involved cattle. “Surely, most college age students understand the importance of a hamburger!”



Make A Difference In The Lives Of Our Students By Contributing To The Virginia Union University 2013-2014 Annual Fund Today!

Today’s students have the same hopes and dreams of future success that you have. We hope that you will share your successes with our current and future students by making a contribution to the University’s yearly fund raising initiative – **The Annual Fund**. The Annual Fund supports scholarships, strengthens the endowment, enhances technology, allows students to study abroad, creates labs and smart classrooms and improves the University’s physical plant. Your gift to the Annual Fund helps with the day-to-day operations of the University and serves as an investment in the future of aspiring college students who will become tomorrow’s productive citizens.

We invite you to be a part of the transformation of our students from seeds of potentiality into the fruits of possibility by contributing \$1,000. However, every gift you give to the University, regardless of its size, reflects your ongoing pride for Virginia Union University’s values and traditions. An envelope is enclosed for your convenience. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Quanda Baker, Director of the Annual Fund at 804-342-3938 or via email at qbaker@vuu.edu.

Thank you for your support!

First-Hand Learning: VUU Students Intern at RAA

“Obtaining an internship is crucial in the sciences in that students gain first-hand knowledge and experience about specifics associated with their potential or a potential scientific field of study,” expressed Dr. Phillip W. Archer, Dean of the School of Math, Science and Technology at Virginia Union University. Following his advice, two Virginia Union University students, Ashley Green, sophomore biology major and Staquita Powell, a biology major and May 2013 graduate, sought out an internship with the Richmond Ambulance Authority (RAA).

Green and Powell surrendered their free time for one academic year to

perform research within the emergency medical services (EMS) field, learning how to perform research and analyze quantitative data. During the course of the program students were given a project and asked to formulate a hypothesis, and conduct a literature search and review to begin writing the foundation for their manuscript. Green completed her research on asthma related breathing problems in children in Richmond, Virginia using global information systems. Powell's research compared airway devices to manage a person's breathing during cardiac arrest for the Richmond area. “The brief time that they are in the program will help them prepare for the next level,” said Solomon Lockett, Jr., Clinical and

Research Manager for RAA. Lockett served as the students' teacher, tutor and mentor during the entire research process.

The cooperative partnership has been in existence for more than five years and continues to provide VUU students with the exposure to help them succeed in their future endeavors. “Most graduate programs require matriculating students to have some basic knowledge of research methods; this program provides that basic knowledge,” said Lockett.

With the help of their faculty mentors, Dr. Thomas Hardy and Dr. Phillip Archer, the students received assistance developing their research and reviewing and analyzing data. The students presented their research to the RAA Board of Directors on April 16, 2013 and before their peers during the 2013 Annual Research Conference held at Virginia State University on April 5, 2013. Green and Powell's research could possibly be published and taken a step further by researchers who find interest in their topics. Once completed, these internships provide evidence of work experience and commitment to science. Projects and research such as these can be added to students' resumes while enhancing their professional portfolio.



Left to right: Kimberly Akers, Manager of Employee Relations and Recruiting; VUU sophomore Ashley Green; and Solomon Lockett, Jr., Clinical and Research Manager.

Faculty and Staff Updates

Dr. David Adewuyi, Director of the Center for International Studies, has been promoted to full professor in the Evelyn R. Syphax School of Education, Psychology and Interdisciplinary Studies.

Dr. Willis Barnett '97, University Choir Director, was commissioned by the Dr. Martin L. King Memorial Commission's Sesquicentennial of the Emancipation Proclamation Music Work Group to compose a fantasy overture entitled "Emancipation Overture." The composition premiered during a concert at the Carpenter Center for the Performing Arts on April 13, 2013 and has aired on PBS stations around the country.

LeCharn D. Benton '88, Title III Senior Program Analyst, received the Master of Business Administration-Accounting degree from Strayer University, June 2013. She was also inducted into the District of Columbia Gamma Chapter of Alpha Chi National College Honor Scholarship Society and the Golden Key International Honor Society.

Dr. Adam L. Bond '01, Assistant Professor of Historical Studies in the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology, released his new book titled *The Imposing Preacher: Samuel DeWitt Proctor and Black Public Faith*.

Dr. Adam L. Bond, Dr. Nathaniel West, Assistant Professor of Christian Education, and **Dr. Denise Janssen**, also an Assistant Professor of Christian Education, received a \$15,000 grant from the Virginia and Gordon Palmer Trust Grants program of the American Baptist Foundation. The School of Theology professors will lead a program of vocational exploration for people in the age range of 18-29, including VUU undergraduate students and young adults in local American Baptist and other congregations.

Denise G. Coleman '13, Graduate Enrollment Services Coordinator, received the Master of Divinity degree from the VUU Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology, May 2013.

Charmica D. Epps '08, Web Content Coordinator, received the Master of Science degree in Sports Management from Virginia State University, May 2013.

Dr. James Henry Harris '76, Professor and Chair of Preaching and Pastoral Theology in the School of Theology, released his new book titled *No Longer Bound: A Theology of Reading and Preaching*.

Dr. Raymond Hylton, Chair and Professor of History and Political Science, delivered a paper on "The VUU 34 and the Campaign for Human Dignity" for the Maggie Walker National Park Services Lecture Series, February 23, 2013. His scholarly paper: "Defying Paternalism: the 'Perverse' Realities that Forged Ireland's Huguenot Communities, 1662-1750" has been accepted for presentation at the Tudor/Stuart Ireland Conference at University College Dublin, Ireland in August. On April 19, 2013, Dr. Hylton delivered an instructional lecture during the Teaching American History Academy (TAHA) session titled "The Role of Women During World War II at Holton School". He also was keynote lecturer at the "Partners in Justice: The Crusade for Voters and Virginia Union University" for the April 16, 2013 meeting of the Richmond Crusade for Voters.

Dr. Shaheen Islam, Professor of Physics, was keynote speaker during the

American Association of Physics Teachers Chesapeake Section Spring Meeting on April 6, 2013.

Linda Jackson, Director of Sponsored Programs/Research, was appointed President-Elect of the National Sponsored Programs Administrators Alliance (NSPAA) for the 2013-2015 term. The NSPAA focuses on improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the administration of sponsored programs specifically at Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

Jim Junot, Sports Information Director, was awarded District III Historical Feature/Coach's Profile of the Year by College Sports Information Director of America (CoSIDA) for his publication titled "Gilbert Fraser: A Light Too Quickly Extinguished."

Dr. Yung Suk Kim, Assistant Professor of New Testament and Early Christianity in the School of Theology, published a monograph entitled *A Transformative Reading of the Bible: Explorations of Holistic Human Transformation* (Eugene, Ore.: Cascade Books, 2013) and an edited book entitled *1 and 2 Corinthians* (Texts and Contexts Series) in May of 2013.

Dr. Ruth Lamprecht, Computer Information Systems Department Instructor, received the Ph.D. in computer science from the College of William and Mary. The title of her dissertation is *Translating Spatial Problems into Lumpable Markov Chains*.

Thomas Millisor, Director of Development and Major Gifts, received an MBA from Virginia Commonwealth University, May 2013.

Samuel T. Rhoades, Special Assistant to the President/Title III Administrator and **Le'Charn D. Benton**, Title III Senior Program Analyst, completed the Grants Management Certificate Program offered by Management Concepts, Inc. The certification sets the industry standard for comprehensive professional education in the grants field. Mr. Rhoades was also recognized by the National Association of Historically Black Colleges and Universities for his dedication as president emeritus of the Foundation for the National Association of Historically Black Colleges and Universities Title III Administrators, Inc.

Sergey Samoilenko, Associate Professor of Computer Information, released a new book titled *Investments in Telecoms and Growth in Productivity*.

Dr. Sunita Sharma, Associate Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies and Coordinator of Special Education, presented research-based professional development presentations at the Council of Exceptional Children (CEC) International Conference in San Antonio, TX, April 3-6, 2013 on the topic "Differentiated Instruction for Exceptional Students with Cultural and Linguistic Diversity." She also presented at the First Annual Urban Child Symposium on the topic "Urban Education-Challenges and Possibilities" on March 1, 2013. Dr. Sharma served as keynote speaker at The College of William and Mary, School of Education Annual Special Education Conference on the topic "Understanding Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students in Your Classroom."

Rev. Dr. Harry E. Simmons, Associate Professor of Pastoral Care and the Practice of Ministry in the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology, is the recipient of the Merit Award for Institutional Chaplaincy from the American Baptist Home Mission Societies Board of Directors.

Delver Woman's Club Donates \$25,000 To VUU



Delver Woman's Club members present \$25,000 check to VUU President Dr. Claude G. Perkins.

The Delver Woman's Club has broken Club records in its giving to Virginia Union University, presenting a check for \$25,000 at the Club's 68th Annual Luncheon Meeting held on May 18, 2013. "Education is one of our goals and Virginia Union is a very important educational driving force for both the Delver Woman's Club and the City of Richmond," said Delver Woman's Club President Gloria Redmond. This is the

James River Valley Chapter of Links, Inc. Donates \$18,000 to Virginia Union

The James River Valley Chapter of the Links, Incorporated donated \$18,000 to Virginia Union University on June 6, 2013 at a luncheon held on the Virginia Union campus. The money will be added to the Chapter's endowed scholarship fund in memory of Edwina Clay Hall, a charter member of the Chapter and distinguished educator in Richmond, Virginia.

The recent donation brings the Chapter's endowed scholarship total to more than \$75,000. "We are fortunate to have in Richmond one of the oldest HBCUs in the country and we support VUU's focus on student success," said Joyce C. Lanier, former chapter president. "We are proud of the success of the institution over the years."

The Chapter has been very active with VUU during the 2012-13 academic year, partnering with the Office of Career Services to sponsor a very successful Professional Closet Community Donation Day and working with the VUU Museum Galleries to host an opening reception and exhibition of the work of artist Charly Palmer. In addition, the James River Valley Chapter of the Links, Inc. sponsored a table at the recent Virginia Union gala and masquerade ball and hosted a bone marrow drive on the VUU campus.

Currently, the Chapter is working with Virginia Union University and J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College on a national initiative to increase student graduation rates at historically black colleges and universities. Students accepted into the program become "Links Scholars" and receive financial assistance, internships, and career and personal development training.



Dr. Claude G. Perkins receives check from members of James River Valley Chapter of Links, Inc.

GIFTS

Club's largest donation to Virginia Union, according to Redmond, who received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from Virginia Union in 1967.

Organized in 1945, the Club now has 90 members who participate in civic, cultural, educational, economic, and social activities. The Club's projects, programs, and activities incorporate all facets of the Richmond community, including Community Learning Week, the United Negro College Fund, Eleventh House, Boys Choir of Richmond, Girls' Club of Richmond, Meals on Wheels, Black History Museum, Virginia Museum, and Urban League of Greater Richmond.

Treble Clef & Book Lovers' Club Scholarship

The Treble Clef & Book Lovers' Club presented its annual endowed scholarship to Virginia Union student Jumohny Walker on April 3, 2013. Club president Thelma Y. Pettis is pictured with Walker, who received a check for \$923, in addition to a \$400 incentive award. For 105 years, the Treble Clef & Book Lovers' Club has been an advocate for the enjoyment of literature and drama and for exploring and appreciating a broad range of music.

The organization will continue to support Ms. Walker during her four years at Virginia Union as long as she meets the requisite grade point average.



Virginia Union University Upcoming Events

EVENT	DATE
Fall Classes Begin	August 22, 2013
Graduate School and University Career Fair	October 10, 2013
Homecoming	October 19, 2013
Fall Break	October 24-25, 2013
Ellison - Jones Convocation	November 11- 14, 2013
University Winter Choir Concert	December 5, 2013
Last Day of Fall Classes	December 5, 2013
Final Exams	December 9-13, 2013
Spring Classes Begin	January 9, 2014
Founders Day	February 7, 2014
Annual Church Leadership Conference	March 15, 2014
Spring Break	March 17-21, 2014
University Career Fair	March 27, 2014
University Choir Spring Concert	April 13, 2014
Edosomwan Evangelism Conference	April 25, 2014
Baccalaureate Ceremony	May 9, 2014
Commencement Ceremony	May 10, 2014

For a complete list of VUU events, including athletic schedules visit our website: www.vuu.edu

VUU Coach Wooten Guided by Legendary Coach “Tricky Tom” Harris

2013 has been a banner year for Virginia Union’s Barvenia Wooten-Cherry. The head coach of the women’s basketball team was named to the NCAA Division II 40th Anniversary Team and inducted into the Cincinnati, Ohio Public Schools Athletic Hall of Fame. Wooten-Cherry, VUU Class of 1983, led the VUU Lady Panthers to the 1983 NCAA Championship. She was inducted into the VUU Athletic Hall of Fame in 1988 and the CIAA Hall of Fame in 1999. Her many awards led to more national recognition recently with the publication of a feature on the NCAA website. Portions of that feature written by Joey Lamar are re-printed below, courtesy of NCAA.org.

Thump! Barvenia Wooten didn’t hear a thing. Wooten was too focused on winning the 1982 Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association basketball tournament championship. With her Virginia Union Panthers leading Norfolk State by one, she was thinking about where she should position herself for the next play. Teammate Maria Nicholson caught only a glimpse because she turned to the bench for guidance on the next offensive set.

By this time, the arena had fallen silent. Eyes were no longer centered on the court. Everyone had diverted their attention to the Panthers bench.

“Beanie, look,” Nicholson shouted. All of Wooten’s teammates called her “Beanie.”

Wooten finally turned and could not believe her eyes. Lying on the floor, twitching and convulsing, was Virginia Union head coach Tom Harris.

Officials sent both teams to their locker rooms. Inside the Panthers dressing room it was completely silent. No one muttered a word. Wooten sat on a dilapidated wooden bench with her forearms resting on the top of her thighs. Most of her teammates assumed similar positions, with the exception of a few leaning against the faded blue lockers. Everyone wondered what was happening just beyond the walls.

“Where are you going?” Wooten asked Nicholson.

“I’m going to see what’s wrong with coach,” Nicholson responded.

The paramedics were already doing all they could to sustain Harris’ life. As Nicholson approached her coach, she took special notice of his countenance, which appeared lifeless. His chest remained stationary.

Nicholson, the team’s floor general, returned to the locker room to address her teammates.

“What does it look like out there?” Wooten questioned.

“Coach is gone, Beanie. He’s gone.” Nicholson said.

Wooten was particularly close with Harris. This was the coach who convinced her to turn down several Division I scholarships to join a unique team atmosphere at Virginia Union. All she could do was turn around and face that faded blue locker...

...Minutes after Nicholson gave her shocking report on Coach Harris’ health, Virginia Union assistant Louis Hearn walked in to reassure the team. He informed them that Harris was still alive and had been taken to a local hospital.

Wooten clung to the promise of hope. She remembered some of the lessons learned from her head coach just a short time prior.

During her freshman year, Wooten’s

immaturity had gotten the best of her. She missed her return flight at the end of the holiday break coming back from Cincinnati. There was no sufficient reason she and teammate Lisa Smith failed to board the plane before departure.

Both walked into practice late and Harris immediately directed them back to the airport.

Being punctual was very important to their head coach. Wooten did not go back to the airport. Instead, she found a place in the bleachers and watched. Harris had kicked her off the team and taken away her scholarship.

Wooten grew up immediately. Thrust into reality, she was going to fight for her true love. She was not going to leave until she was back on the team.

Waiting until all the players cleared the floor, Wooten approached Harris and pleaded her case for reinstatement. She spoke from her heart. Harris stared back at the freshman unsympathetically.

Harris relayed two important facts of life that remain ever present in Wooten's mind:

Being on time to places and events is vital to success in life. People associate your arrival with your attitude toward the event.

No player is bigger than the team, no matter how talented or highly touted. For the team to succeed, everyone must embark upon the same path both on and off the court.

Eventually, Wooten was given a second and final chance. She sat on the old wooden bench, faced that faded-blue locker and cherished the opportunity as Harris was rushed to the hospital.



Barvenia Wooten-Cherry '83 poses in front of photo of VUU coach "Tricky Tom" Harris.

Wooten's reflection was jolted when officials presented Virginia Union with two options for completing the CIAA title game. They could either finish the game, or choose to split the 1982 CIAA conference championship.

Assistant coaches left the locker room, giving Virginia Union players a chance to discuss the two options.

"You all know coach would want us to play, right?" Nicholson said. Those words were the only ones that needed to be stated.

And the Panthers emerged ready to play. Virginia Union played with intensity and fire.

They won by the slimmest possible margin. In the end, it was the intensity that propelled them to their second consecutive CIAA championship.

Hugs, high-fives and many other celebratory exchanges occurred after the final buzzer, but the Panthers would soon face a difficult reality. Coach "Tricky" Thomas Harris died from the medical complications he suffered earlier that day.

Harris' legacy remained with Wooten throughout the remainder of her tenure at Virginia Union. His lessons were some of the reasons she would eventually get into coaching.

SPORTS ROUNDUP



(left-to-right): Cam'ree Jackson, C'evon Jones, Coach Wilbert D. Johnson, G'Ana Robinson, S'Kaylah Woods

Track

The Virginia Union University women's 4x100 meter relay team, as well as women's 100-meter dash participants Cam'ree Jackson and C'evon Jones earned All-American Honors at the 2013 NCAA Division II Outdoor Track & Field Championships, held May 23-25 in Pueblo, Colorado.

The women's 4x100 meter relay team of Jackson, Jones, S'Kaylah Woods and G'Ana Robinson placed third nationally with a time of 44.81 seconds. Jackson placed second nationally in the 100 meters with a time of 11.50 seconds. Jones was fourth nationally in the 100 meters with a time of 11.64 seconds.

As a team, VUU finished 11th nationally, the highest finish ever for a Virginia Union University women's track & field team.

"The team was prepared during the season by running against some of the best Division I competition," said VUU Track & Field Coach Wilbert Johnson. "Therefore they were able to go toe-to-toe at the NCAA D-II Outdoor Track & Field Championship with the best in the land and come out victorious."

Softball

VUU's Lady Panther softball team shattered a 1988 record this season by finishing 15-10.

On their newly dedicated softball field, the ladies got off to a quick start, winning three of their first four games.

The team finished 2013 as the #3 team in the Northern Division of the CIAA with a 12-8 conference record.



VUU student-athlete Mason Simpson received the CIAA Golf Player of the Year Award (left to right: Athletic Director Michael Bailey, Mason Simpson, CIAA Commissioner Jacquie Carpenter and Dr. Ed McLean, Athletic Director for Fayetteville State University.)



Golf

Virginia Union University's Mason Simpson, a 2013 graduate, was named the #1 individual golfer in the Atlantic/East Region of the NCAA, and was selected for the NCAA Regional to compete at The Jones Course at Oglebay Resort in Wheeling, WV, on May 6-8.

Simpson won the individual CIAA Championship on Friday, April 19, and became the region's #1 Division II golfer on the strength of that win. Simpson is one of two individual CIAA golfers to be invited to the regional.

VUU Trio Sign as Free Agents to NFL Teams

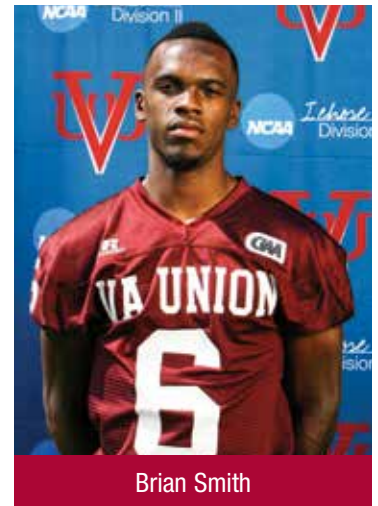
Virginia Union University boasts a long list of football players who have made their way into the National Football League (NFL) and that list continues to grow. In fact, three former players are taking a shot at an NFL roster for the upcoming season. "Coach Mike Bailey always told us to play like a pro," explained Andre Kates, former VUU cornerback.

The day preceding the NFL Draft, Kates signed a free agent contract with the Baltimore Ravens. Former defensive end Kentrell Harris signed with the Oakland Raiders, and former cornerback Brian Smith signed with the New York Jets.

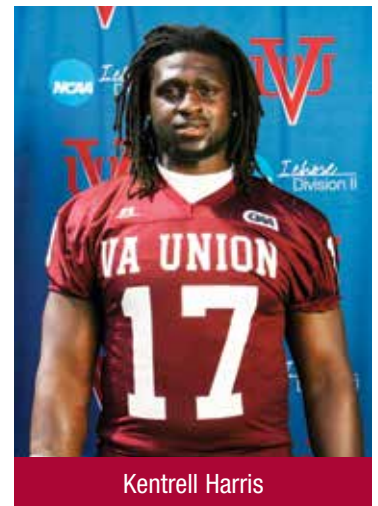
VUU football players get a chance to perform before NFL scouts during Pro-Day, Junior Day and throughout the year on the VUU campus. The events, organized by Assistant Head Coach, Defensive Coordinator and Pro-Liaison Kevin Grisby, allow scouts to put potential NFL players through speed drills, bench press and agility tests, as well as take measurements of the athletes. This type of event is an advantage for players at VUU. "Many don't have pro-days on our level and especially at the HBCU level," explained Grisby.

Grisby has coached for nearly 17 years, sending players like Pete Hunter, who played with the Dallas Cowboys, to the professional realm of football. Grisby played at the professional level in 1990 when he was a member of the Philadelphia Eagles. His experience has helped prepare players for the next level of the game. "Coach Grisby helped me a lot," said Kates. "He got me mentally and physically ready for the NFL."

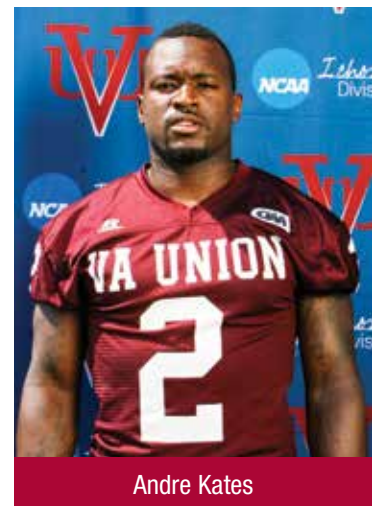
Having three athletes from one athletic program receive national attention is "definitely a plus," explained Grisby. "It helps in our recruiting. It shows the type of program and coaches VUU has."



Brian Smith



Kentrell Harris



Andre Kates

VUU's Simeon Booker Publishes Book About His 51 Years as Jet Magazine's Washington Bureau Chief



Shocking the Conscience: A Reporter's Account of the Civil Rights Movement is a testament to the courage and tenacity of Simeon

Booker, VUU Class of 1942, who covered the Civil Rights Movement for *Jet* magazine for half a century. He was determined to spread the word about the injustices taking place in the segregated South even if it meant placing his own life at risk. Mr. Booker's work is being praised as "unforgettable" and "a history that many researchers have missed." Mr. Booker recently took some time to share his memories of Virginia Union and highlights from his distinguished career with the *Unionite*.

You graduated in the Virginia Union Class of 1942. What stands out most in your memory of the VUU of that time?

...Richmond was my first experience in the segregated South, but our campus in the heartland of Virginia was an oasis of free expression, where students could speak on any issue and discuss any problem...Union also was a place where students not only expected but demanded respect, even from visitors. I recall one time when a white man failed to remove his hat when he entered the president's office. Students nearby in the hallway took it not only as a discourtesy, but perhaps even a sign of supremacy, which they were not about to tolerate. When the

man emerged, they booed and warned him that if he didn't take off his hat, they would. Red faced, he obliged. This was the spirit of the student body, defiant and determined.

How did Virginia Union help you achieve your goals?

Both the high standards of the professors I had, and the extracurricular activities I engaged in were helpful to me in developing the skills necessary for a career in journalism. As an English major, I worked my way through college handling publicity for Virginia Union's football and basketball teams. The experience helped me get similar work back in Youngstown during the summer, where I was well paid (at least \$100 a game) for promoting the baseball games of the Homestead Grays.

You were getting stories published in the Baltimore Afro American when you were still in high school, according to published reports. What advice would you give today's high school and college students who desire a career in journalism?

Journalism today is very different from when I started out – before either television or, obviously, the Internet. But there are today some basics that still apply. I would say a student interested in a career in journalism should get a broad education, with considerable emphasis on social studies; and

write, write, write. I would also add the advice I was given by an editor at the *Youngstown Vindicator* which ran my articles when I was growing up: get the facts, and get them straight. And, as I was also advised by an old-timer, "Never give up."

Is it true that you started out in journalism making \$18 a week?

Yes, I made \$18 a week and it barely covered my food and a room at the Baltimore YMCA. My clothes were becoming threadbare, and I was going deeper into debt every week just trying to make ends meet.

How do you explain to today's college student the importance of having passion for your life's work even if you don't get rich?

Looking back, I have no regrets – especially about not getting rich. If you believe in what you're doing, and make it your goal to help people, that's where the real rewards are.

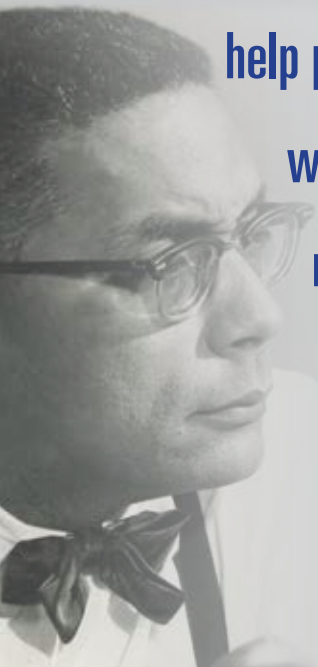
Your groundbreaking coverage of the murder of Emmett Till and the subsequent trial galvanized the Civil Rights movement, but placed you in grave personal danger. Can you share with us an incident during which you felt particularly threatened?

For my own protection, we never ran my picture in *Jet*; nor did my articles on the Till case include a byline. Nevertheless, the racist, tough-talking sheriff in Tallahatchie



County, Mississippi, where the trial was held, learned of some unflattering copy in *Jet* and assumed (correctly) that I was responsible. On the third day of the trial, Sheriff Strider dispensed with his usual greeting “Mornin’, [racial slur],” as he approached the Black press table in a fury, huffing and red faced. He got right to the point, asking where was that

**“If you believe
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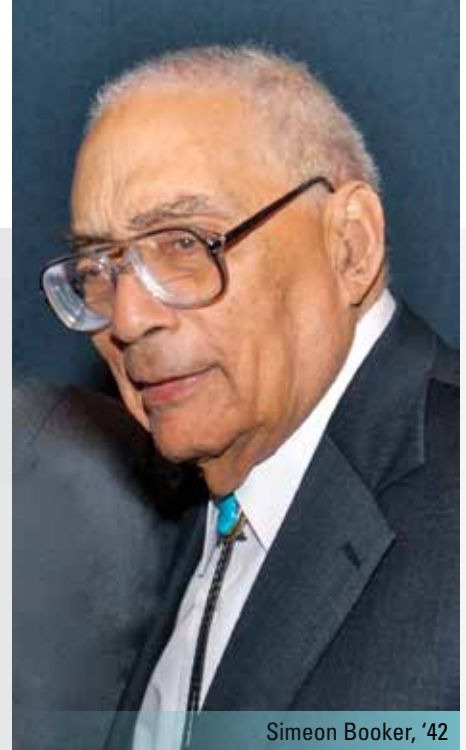
“[racial slur] reporter Booker,” the one that worked for “the little magazine called *Jet*.”

Before I could breathe, or anyone else at the table could even blink, Jimmy Hicks of the New York *Amsterdam News* shot back, “He left yesterday.”

“If you ever see that [racial slur] reporter, you tell him that I will take his head off his neck if we ever meet,” Strider bellowed as he stormed away. I still believe Jimmy Hicks probably saved my life that day.

It has been reported that the FBI helped protect you during your reporting in the segregated South. Could you elaborate?

“Protect” is too strong a word. I became good friends over the years with Deke DeLoach, a top FBI official in Washington, who would tip me off about specific concerns, if any, at a particular destination where I might be headed. After James Farmer, director of CORE and leader of the 1961 Freedom Rides, received no response from the FBI when he wrote Hoover describing the organization’s plans to integrate interstate bus travel, rest stops and terminals between D.C. and New Orleans, I called DeLoach on the eve of our departure to tell him we expected trouble in the South. But the FBI was not expected to provide protection (Hoover consistently maintained that wasn’t its role), nor did we receive any.



Simeon Booker, ‘42

Did you ever think you would live to see the election of an African American president?

Yes, I did. But it helped that – at 94 – I have lived a very long life. Others in the 1960’s, such as then Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, also predicted that there could be a Black president in forty years or so, although tragically he did not live to see it.

What are you most proud of as you look back on your distinguished career as the dean of the black press?

That I stood up for what was right, and tried always to do the right thing.

How do our readers purchase a copy of your book, *Shocking the Conscience: A Reporter’s Account of the Civil Rights Movement*?

The surest way to find the book is probably online directly from University Press of Mississippi at www.u/press.state.ms.us/books/1582 or from major booksellers such as Amazon and Barnes & Noble. Some bookstores such as Busboys and Poets in the D.C. area have also had it in stock.

Meet Your New Alumni Association President

Ms. Carolyn Wooldridge Jacobs '64 is a native of Richmond, Virginia and a graduate of Armstrong High School. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Virginia Union University and a Master of Education degree from Virginia Commonwealth University. Her professional career spanned 30 years as an educator, counselor, guidance coordinator and department head.

After retiring in 1997, Jacobs owned and operated a medical transportation and limousine service in Greater Richmond. She is currently an account specialist for Alliant Consortium, LLC, which is owned



by her son and offers solutions in the behavioral health and communications industries.

Her goals as president of the Virginia Union University National Alumni Association, Inc. are to

promote community service among alumni, increase alumni giving and participation, and to provide consistent communications to alumni.



VUU National Alumni Association, Inc. Elects New Officers

During the National Alumni Association, Inc. Convention held June 21-22, 2013 the newly-elected officers were sworn into office as the 2013-2015 Executive Board Members.

Members of the Executive Board are pictured above:

First Row: (left to right) Steve Hairston '85, Sponsorship Officer; Jeanette Jones '02, Corresponding Secretary; Nicole Hamlin Fleming '06, Recording Secretary; Carolyn Jacobs '64, President; Delsenia Sammons '67,

Financial Secretary; Earl Turner '79, Chaplain; and Wistar Withers '68, Social Events Officer.

Second Row: (left to right) Doris Bey '71, Vice-President; Marian Martin '61, Parliamentarian; Morris White '03, Neurologist; Charmica Epps '08, Student Liaison Officer; Patricia Spence '68, Membership Officer; and Robert Youngblood '04, Marketing Officer.

Not pictured: An'Jou Skipper Johnson '87, Treasurer.

Class Notes

Nikki Bargains (formerly Trotter) '96 was promoted to Senior Vice President at Bank of America.

Heber Brown, III '05 was awarded a \$10,000 Beatitudes Fellowship from the Beatitudes Society. He is one of eight emerging faith leaders from across the United States selected for the annual award. The fellowship identifies and equips a select group of young entrepreneurial faith leaders with resources and relationships that empower them to create new models for church and social justice and grow communities of faith.

Derrick Coles '07 accepted the position of Director of Compliance for Athletics at Florida State University.

Doreen O. Dixon '90 received a Master of Business Administration: Leadership at Liberty University in March 2013.

Nicole Hamlin Fleming '06 was named Teacher of the Year at Miles Jones Elementary in Richmond, VA.

Angela Mitchell '01 has been promoted to "Project Search Teacher" for Hanover County, Virginia.

Yolanda Smith '90 will serve as project director for Yale University's new website, entitled *Been in the Storm So Long*, which chronicles the history of theological education for African Americans. The website has a particular focus on Blacks at the Yale Divinity School. Smith currently serves as associate professor at Yale Divinity School.

Corey D. B. Walker '98 accepted a joint appointment as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and John W. and Anna Hodgkin Hanes professor of the Social Sciences at Winston-Salem State University.

Dr. Peter M. Wherry '86 released his new book titled *Preaching Funerals in the Black Church: Bringing Perspective to Pain*. The book is intended for seminarians, scholars and pastors who crave an accessible but substantial resource for priming the pump for preaching when the burden of grief and the busyness of ministry cause inspiration to run dry. Dr. Wherry currently serves as pastor of Mayfield Memorial Missionary Baptist Church in Charlotte, North Carolina and is the doctoral advisor at Hood Theological Seminary in Salisbury, North Carolina.

Morris White '03 accepted the position of County Extension Director for Vance County with North Carolina Extension.

in memoriam

Mr. Arthur Anderson III, '63

Mrs. Alberta Coleman Bridgers

Mr. Albert A. Dawson, Jr., '74

Dr. Gilbert G. Campbell, '41

Mr. Rodger P. Fitzgerald, '55

Mrs. Aretha Mae Freeman, '41

Mrs. Theresa B. Hicks, '76

Ms. Catherine Diane
Ware Hundley, '73

Mr. Harold W. Jackson, '62

Mrs. Robinette D. Jiggets, '47

Kathryn Leigh Kenney, '47

Mr. William E. Murray, Jr., '47

Dr. Grace Vernell Norbrey, '46

Mr. Daniel H. Page, '75

Ms. Carletha Ransome
Palmer, '45

Dr. Valvin E. Sutton IV, '58

Mrs. Realand T. Uddyback, '59

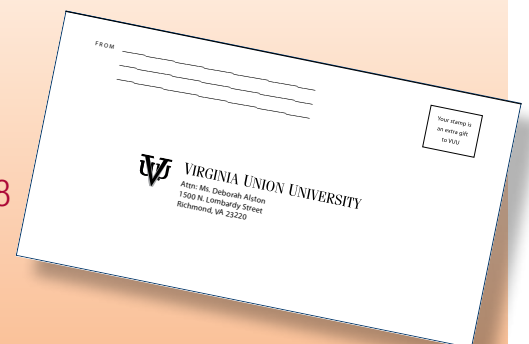
Mrs. Elsie E. Wade, '59

Mrs. Constance Wilson Wyatt, '47

ALUMNI

VUU needs your commitment and support!

To make an ongoing difference in the lives of our students, contact the Division of Institutional Advancement at 804.342.3938 or use the envelope enclosed in this issue for your convenience.



VUU Football Schedule

VUU Football at Bethune-Cookman	Daytona Beach, FL	September 7
VUU Football vs. Shaw	(Faculty and Staff Night)	September 14
VUU Football vs. Fayetteville State	(Veterans Appreciation Day)	September 21
VUU Football vs. Winston-Salem State	(Hall of Fame Game)	September 28
VUU Football at Livingstone	Salisbury, NC	October 5
VUU Football at Lincoln	Lincoln University, PA	October 12
VUU Football vs. Chowan	(Homecoming)	October 19
VUU Football at Bowie State	Bowie, MD	October 26
VUU Football vs. Elizabeth City State	(Senior Day & Community Youth Bowl)	November 2
VUU Football at Virginia State University	Petersburg, VA	November 9

VIRGINIA UNION UNIVERSITY
SAMUEL DEWITT PROCTOR SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

THE SIXTY-FIFTH ANNUAL

Ellison-Jones Convocation

JOHN MALCUS ELLISON – MILES JEROME JONES

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH – THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH, 2013



DR. WILLIAM H. CURTIS
MT. ARARAT
BAPTIST CHURCH
PITTSBURGH, PA



DR. GINA M. STEWART
CHRIST MISSIONARY
BAPTIST CHURCH
MEMPHIS, TN



DR. DWIGHT RIDDICK
GETHESEMANE
BAPTIST CHURCH
NEWPORT NEWS, VA



DR. ALLAN A. BOESAK
CHRISTIAN THEOLOGICAL
SEMINARY
INDIANAPOLIS, IN

CONVOCATION THEME:
"PREACHING OUT OF SEASON"

SPECIAL REGISTRATION
(Alumni Luncheon @ HUMC) - \$175.00

EARLY REGISTRATION
(July 1 – November 1, 2013) - \$200.00

ONSITE REGISTRATION
\$225.00

ONE-DAY (LUNCH NOT INCLUDED)
\$90.00

For a convocation schedule and registration information, please visit our website at www.vuu.edu

Dr. Claude G. Perkins, President | Dr. John W. Kinney, Dean



Saving All My Love

Sunday, October 13
4:00 p.m. Worship Experience

Monday, October 14
8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Professional Clothing Closet
Community Donations Day

Tuesday, October 15
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Professional Networking Career Event

Thursday, October 17
8:30 a.m.
President's Cup Golf Tournament,
Brookwood Golf Course

7:00 p.m.
Mr. and Miss VUU Coronation

7:00 p.m.
VUUNAA Welcome Reception

Friday, October 18
12:30 p.m.
VUUNAA Business Luncheon and
Carol S. McCall Awards Ceremony

6:00 p.m.
Classes In Reunion Dinner
(classes ending in 3's and 8's)

7:00 p.m.
Greek Step Show

9:00 p.m.
Official VUUNAA Homecoming Social

Saturday, October 19
1:00 p.m.
Homecoming Game
VUU vs. Chowan

9:00 p.m.
Official Alumni Homecoming Dance

More info, visit www.VUU.edu

Homecoming
2013

4 Virginia
Union
UNIVERSITY

October 13-19 Schedule of Events

Virginia Union University

1500 North Lombardy Street / Richmond, VA 23220

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P A I D

Richmond, VA

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