It’s not surprising that The UWI Percussion Ensemble and Golden Hands Steel Orchestra have been invited to perform their latest undertaking, The Rainmakers, at the 33rd Annual Percussive Arts Society International Convention in Austin, Texas in November. The popular production has received praise from both audiences and drama critics at home.

And so in just a few months the young musicians, who are now actively seeking sponsorship in order to take up this opportunity, will perform alongside competitively selected percussionists from around the world.

The Rainmakers, a full length dramatic concert written and directed by Franka Hills Headley and featuring nine original compositions for the steel pan by Dr Jeannine Remy, brought together The University of the West Indies (UWI) Percussion Ensemble and the Golden Hands youth orchestra. Headley is the director of Golden Hands Steel Orchestra, a San Fernando-based 30-member conventional steel band; Remy, who lectures in Music at the UWI Centre for Creative and Festival Arts (CCEA), is the Conductor of the 20-member UWI Percussion Ensemble. The Remy-Headley collaboration in Rainmakers was a resounding success: the audience at the CCEA auditorium remained spellbound for the entire presentation, gave a standing ovation at the close, and milled around afterwards commenting on the excellence of the show.

Rainmakers is a 45-minute musical production integrating dance, drama and Trinidadian Carnival characters. All 50 musicians perform in costume while the dancers and characters enact the dramatic storyline. The main characters are the King of Rains, the Rainmaker and the King of Droughts. The storyline is fairly simple: the people of Rainmaker Land have forsaken the true worship of The King of Rains, and drought ensues. The King of Drought has unleashed his fury on the land. Now the land is totally devoid of moisture and the inhabitants groan in their misery producing an insatiable Thirsty Earth. However, The King of Rains has hidden a special Rainmaker, who lays asleep deep in the heart of the earth. And as one would expect the production ends on a high note with a Chip in the Rain.

Interestingly, the programme notes speak of the production as bridging a gap in the industry, “[The pieces] have been designed to fill the gap of “classical” music often heard only for music festivals and steelpan examinations. The music moves from a distinct dissonant to a consonant quality as the storyline unfolds and hints at the plethora of ethnographic music genres that are the fruition of the rich creolisation process of the islands of Trinidad and Tobago.”

The compositions, which comprise five steel band ensemble pieces, two solos, one quartet, and one piece that combines a large percussion ensemble with the steel band, are intended to elevate the level of performance practice by expanding the musicianship of young pansters. As a unit, the nine pieces explore the practical and theoretical potential of the steelpan that is vital for its continued evolution in the 21st century. For example, both soloists in the session (Richard Bereaux and Vanessa Headley) performed with four sticks and one performed on a new steelpan instrument dubbed the “extended seconds”, which is essentially a version of the traditional double seconds with increased range. The extended seconds, which emerged out of experimentation by Mr. Bertrand “Birch” Kelman, at the request of Dr. Jeannine Remy, is one example of positive developments that can pose greater demands on the music literacy of performers, as well as the creativity of composers.

The Rainmakers Showcase Concert, made possible through the assistance of the Music Literacy Trust and the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs, will soon be made available on CD through SANCH Electronix.

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New talent springs to life at UWI concert

BY GERARD BEST

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UWI SEISMIC UNIT TO MONITOR SOUFIERE
For the next five years the Montserrat Volcano Observatory (MVO) will be jointly managed by the UWI Seismic Research Unit (SRU) and the Institut de Physique du Globe de Paris (IPGP), bringing the Caribbean’s only currently erupting volcano back under the watch of regional scientists. This decision is potentially beneficial to Montserratians and provides significant opportunities for advancing geoscience research in the region. The joint SRU/IPGP contract takes effect on April 1, following an almost ten year relationship between the British Geological Survey (BGS) and the MVO. Collectively, the staff of the SRU and the IPGP has over one hundred years of experience studying volcanoes in the West Indies and elsewhere.
CARIBBEAN INTEGRATION
Caribbean Leaders and Students Celebrate

“This was our gift to the University Ma’am,” explained a very polite, obviously diligent, Machale Taylor. “This Gala Banquet and Awards ceremony was held by the International Affairs Committee in commemoration of UWI’s Sixtieth anniversary.”

A first year UWI Medical Sciences student, Taylor explained that at the March 26th event which brought Caribbean Week to a close, students celebrated with leaders from across the region including, former Campus Principal and current President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Professor George Maxwell Richards, local Government Minister Donna Cox, U.S. Ambassador Roy Austin, as well as St Lucian Minister of Tourism, Allan Chastenet. Throughout the week the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Botswana, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, St Lucia, St Vincent as well as the Leeward Islands (which includes: Anguilla, Antigua, Barbuda, Montserrat, St Kitts and Névis) and Trinidad and Tobago Student Associations celebrated their diversity at various events on Campus.

“It was a big success – we had approximately 150 international students who attended all of the Student Associations and the Principal, Professor Clement Sankat was 100 percent in support of the gala banquet and the whole week… The whole week was about integration and we got that. Everyone came out, we got full support.” At the Gala, students took the opportunity to honour several individuals and associations including Collin Moore, chosen by his peers as Student of the Year and the St Vincent Student Association, which copped the Association of the Year award. The Campus Principal was selected as Person of the Year 2008/2009 because of the “level of respect that students have for him on the Campus, they look up to him as a role model – because he’s friendly, encouraging and has good leadership skills,” explained Taylor, Chairman of the International Affairs Committee and Student Guild Secretary.

For Taylor, who was born in the Bahamas, the week was a resounding success; most of all because it achieved its main goal which was to bring about greater integration on the Campus of a regional University.

For more information on the event please contact:

uwi.guild.secretary@gmail.com

GUILD Secretary /International Affairs Chairperson.
PHI uses modern electronics and manufacturing techniques to deliver a robust instrument that significantly reduces concerns of handling during transport and storage.
Q. Are we getting fatter as a nation? Is there a growing trend of obesity in our children?
A. Yes to both questions. We are following international trends in that we now have lower rates of obesity in Trinidadian school children, aged 6-12 years in a national health survey carried out by the Ministry of Health. Our population (18-64 yrs) approximately 48% have a BMI greater than 25 (ie. overweight); this is high, but still lower than other Caribbean countries and certainly lower than the U.S. where it is over 60%. We also found that the prevalence of obesity (BMI more than 30) was 23% of persons aged 18–64 years old; the gender distribution was 23% of the women and 12% of the men were obese. Another, more simple, way of measuring obesity is waist circumference and 26% of the persons in Trinidad and Tobago aged 18–64 years had high waist circumferences. Basically, in men this is a waist or belt size of more than 40 inches and women greater than 35 inches. The frequency of (a wide) waist circumference is quite high and work by UWI graduate students has shown that this is associated with insulin resistance, a precursor to diabetes.

Q. How else can we measure obesity?
A. We use a body mass index…and this gives you an indicator of your weight in relation to your height. Your weight in kilograms is divided by your height in meters. This can be calculated using an online calculator: www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/dci/Diabetes/bmi/

Q. What are the health risks associated with having an increasing waistline?
A. The implication of that is that as your waist circumference increases your risk for diabetes and high blood pressure also increases.

Q. What about things like sugary drinks? And what work is being done to help our kids make the right food and drink choices?
A. I was reading a study this week where they replaced soft drinks in high schools with water and fruit drinks and they found the prevalence of obesity decreased. My collaborators at the University of Saskatchewan were able to successfully implement a province wide programme in which soft drinks were replaced by water, fruit juices and milk. I’m working with the Ministry of Education and the University of Saskatchewan to implement similar programmes in local primary schools. We recently received a research grant from the Pan America Health Education Foundation grant for US $50,000 to look at how health promotion could be implemented in primary schools. What we are going to do with this grant is infuse the primary school curriculum by integrating healthy lifestyles into the curriculum…instead of isolated courses…and conduct workshops to train in the delivery of the educational material followed by an assessment of the impact of these new curricula. The other aspect is that we need to promote a healthy environment to support these changes and that is the issue of replacing the vending machines etc comes into place. So in the school cafeteria we need to change what is offered to students… One of my graduate students is feeding rats sugar in their drinking water and just by giving one group of rats sucrose, cane sugar, they display symptoms of diabetes.

Q. If a person has a history of diabetes in the family—grandmother, father, brother, aunt—is it inevitable that they too will become diabetic?
A. This is a good question. As a country, as a people, we do not have an overall increased disposition to diabetes. I have looked at the genetic make-up of our population, in particular the deleterious types of genes that are associated with diabetes, and it is not higher in other populations. Therefore we do not have a higher than normal risk for being afflicted with diabetes or heart disease. I think that the answer to your question is that there is an interaction between what you are and what you eat; that is an interaction between your genetic make-up and your environment…you may have a genetic disposition but until you eat badly or if you do not exercise, then you increase your risk for diabetes. Even in diabetics if you exercise your body is better able to handle sugar. Exercise is not only a major modifiable factor in preventing the disease, but it is also important in reducing complications. And then there is diet of course…You can make informed choices and read labels-for example a serving of curried duck has 800 calories as opposed to 150 in baked chicken. It’s the same thing with shrimp and chicken. Shrimp has a lot more cholesterol and fat compared to chicken, but you do not eat a pound of shrimp whereas you might eat a pound of chicken.

Q. How does our diet compare to other countries?
A. Although as a country we eat a fair amount of fruit and vegetables compared to other countries, we still do not eat enough fruit and vegetables. We tend to have more fried, high fat foods (fast foods) in our diet; this combined with sedentary lifestyles and a decrease in physical activity make one predisposed to putting on weight. We have a culture here where we socialise with food, which is normal; so if a child passes Common Entrance we go out and celebrate…at a wedding…religious function we celebrate with food…We need to make informed choices about healthy eating and one can be guided by the definition of healthy eating which is in my opinion, is eating a small amount of a variety of foods. So there is no good food and bad food. A food becomes a bad food when it is eaten in excess (except for fruits and vegetables, of course). For example, olive oil is regarded as having health benefits as part of a Mediterranean diet, so we proceed to fry everything in olive oil. The problem with this is that olive as used in the Mediterranean diet is never heated and is never used for frying. Frying changes the health benefit of olive oil and adds fat and calories to your diet. Remember …Healthy eating is defined as eating small amounts of a variety of foods.
**FOUND IN TRANSLATION**

**Gerard Best talks with Eric Maitrejean about the new, in-demand diploma in Interpreting Techniques**

The Postgraduate Diploma in Interpretation (due to be renamed Interpreting Techniques), which graduated its first cohort in November 2007, received dozens of applications for its September 2008 programme. The new programme’s first incarnation, offered by UWI St Augustine in 1994, was a Certificate in Conference Interpreting.

“That programme was very short-lived,” recalled Programme Coordinator Eric Maitrejean. “It was offered only for one year, in collaboration with the University of Central London (now Westminster), with instructors being teachers of UCL and also staff interpreters at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, France.”

“The reason why UWI decided to revive it in 2006 was the fact that we noticed a lot of events taking place in Trinidad and Tobago—multilingual events involving regional and international organisations—and we realised that a lot of the interpreters were actually coming from the outside, not only outside of Trinidad and Tobago, but outside of the Caribbean. We realised that there was an untapped potential right here in Trinidad, with its large cosmopolitan society.”

“All the same, when the new programme was advertised in late 2005, it did not only attract locals, but also applicants from Argentina, Venezuela and Colombia.”

“It was very interesting to see the different backgrounds of the applicants. This was exactly what we wanted for the programme,” Maitrejean said. “We didn’t want to teach people to interpret into English alone and have only English-speakers enrolled. The richness of the programme came from the different profiles of the applicants.”

Of the 26 applicants, 16 were selected, 12 completed the programme and 6 graduated. The 50 per cent pass rate met expectations, as the rigorous programme was the first of its kind in the English-speaking Caribbean.

“It’s really something that demands that you be in tune with the foreign language,” said Maitrejean, who made an important distinction between casual conversational interpreting and the more rigorous demands of the formal, professional activity, which requires in-depth knowledge of interpreting and the more rigorous demands of the formal, professional activity, which requires in-depth knowledge of a variety of fields, a huge range of vocabulary and a facility with language learning.

He went on to add that the new UWI programme is comparable to similar programmes in Mexico, California, Venezuela, Paris, Geneva, Brussels and London, but students in the UWI programme have an “edge”, Maitrejean explained, because of the amount of practical experience available to them in Trinidad. For example, the recently graduated cohort gained valuable real-world experience at a number of high-profile international events, including the Association of Caribbean States (ACS) meetings at its Port of Spain headquarters, and the 2007 Haiti Now! Art, Film and Literature seminar hosted by UWI St Augustine, among many others.

“We had students in mixed teams (sharing the booths with seasoned interpreters) at the European-Latin American Summit on Drugs, which was hosted in Trinidad, and the delegates came to congratulate the team as it is done traditionally when the job is very well done, but when they heard that some of the interpreters were students, they were very, very impressed,” said Maitrejean. He added that of the six graduates of the new programme, four had already interpreted at conferences following the completion of the programme.

Maitrejean also explained the meaning of the Programme title ‘Interpreting Techniques’. The word “techniques,” he said, refers to the four main professional competencies that the course aims to develop, namely Consecutive Interpreting, Simultaneous Interpreting, Whispering Interpreting and Oral Translation.

Consecutive Interpreting, he explained, is a technique in which interpreters use their memories and holophrastic notes to render whole speeches from one language to another. Simultaneous Interpreting, on the other hand, takes place in conferences and seminars, where professional interpreters sit behind closed doors in discrete “hibbows” and use headsets and microphones to instantly relay spoken translations to conference participants. Whispering Interpreting (also called Liaison Interpreting) applies in an outdoor or roving configuration, where interpreters perform their task without the help of interpreting equipment, (hence the term ‘Whispering’).

Interpreting, which always involves speech, is distinct from translation, which typically deals with the written word only. Oral Translation, however, is an interpreting technique which involves the instant translation and oral rendering of written passages. This technique is also called Sight Translation, since interpreters are required to render translations of written passages on sight.

Fortunately, the new Interpretation programme has also benefited from another landmark initiative, the recent establishment of the Caribbean Interpreting and Translation Bureau (CITB). This was established by the UWI Faculty of Humanities and Education in 2005 in response to increasing demands from the academic community and the business sector. The CITB has been able to capitalize on the local and international opportunities for the provision of qualified services in translation and interpreting. Ultimately, the Bureau has been able to harmonise individual and institutional efforts in the provision of these services, allowing for a centrally managed Faculty and Campus resource.

“When the CITB quoted for an event, we mixed the students with seasoned interpreters. So not only did students get a chance to practice, but they got a chance to listen to experienced interpreters working at a real event,” said Maitrejean.

Over the past three years, the Bureau has provided interpreting services at several high profile events in the business and public sectors, including the ARPEL Emergency Response Planning Working Group Meeting, the Ministry of Housing’s 2006 Golloquium, and the 31st Annual Caribbean Studies Association Conference. The CITB has also translated marketing and promotional material for several state and private sector organizations including, eTecK, Tourism Development Co., Blue Waters, Petro-Canada Ltd., and the Caribbean Health Research Council.

CITB Director, Dr Beverly-Ann Carter, explained that providing an avenue for students to gain real-world exposure, has always been part of the Vision of the CITB: “The CITB was intended to act as an incubator for proficient undergraduate linguists from the degree programmes, or recently qualified interpreters from the postgraduate Diploma in Interpreting, who could be attached as apprentices to the qualified and experienced translators and interpreters contracted by the CITB.”

The Bureau is situated at the Centre for Language Learning (CLL), the locus of language services on the St Augustine Campus. The CLL, which is directed by Dr Carter, is one of the two buildings on the St Augustine campus which have been outfitted with cutting-edge DIS (Danish Interpretation Systems) equipment, the preferred simultaneous interpreting apparatus, used by the World Bank, the Caribbean Court of Justice and other national, regional and international agencies. It’s apparent that the infrastructure is in place to usher the programme to the next phase of its evolution.

“I think the future of the programme is internationalising it, offering it to people outside of Trinidad and Tobago,” reflected Maitrejean. “We now have the potential to advertise it in French-speaking and Spanish-speaking countries, as well as Caricom territories, so that it can also attract people who are not based in Trinidad and Tobago.”
Deputy British High Commissioner to Trinidad and Tobago, Geoff Patton, described Prince Charles’ concern for the environment as a “passion”. Throughout his visit to The UWI St Augustine Campus environmental issues were certainly high on the Prince’s agenda, from the dramatic performance by the UWI troupe Arts-In-Action to the memorabilia on display at the JFK Quadrangle.

Coincidentally, the royal visit of the Prince of Wales and his wife, the Duchess of Cornwall, on March 5th, came the very year that The University of the West Indies marks its 60th Anniversary, as well as the one in which the Prince will celebrate his sixtieth birthday. Historically, the University has strong links with the Royal Family and the University of London. In 1950, Her Royal Highness, Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, a grand-daughter of Queen Victoria, was appointed by King George VI to be the first Chancellor of the University College of the West Indies, (the precursor to UWI) which was established by Royal Charter. As Chancellor, Princess Alice presided at all the convocations and graduation ceremonies until her retirement in 1971. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, was an honorary graduate, having been awarded the D. Litt (Honoris Causa) in 1965. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II is the Visitor of the University.

And so the Royal couple were warmly welcomed to the Campus on March 5th. After being formally received by Pro Vice Chancellor and Campus Principal, Professor Clement Sankat; and The Hon. Marlene Mc Donald, Minister of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs, Their Royal Highnesses were given a tour of the 60th Anniversary Exhibition by Prof. Margaret Rouse-Jones, University and Campus Librarian. Prof. Brian Copeland, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Mr. Jessel Murray of the UWI Centre for Creative and Festival Arts then gave a brief presentation on the Genesis Pan (“G” Pan) which has been developed at UWI and invited Their Royal Highnesses to play the tenor pan.

Next, the party was invited to view a presentation on climate change by the Arts-in-Action Group, led by Mr. Brendon La Caille of the UWI Centre for Creative and Festival Arts. At the end of this presentation, the Campus Principal presented Their Royal Highnesses with tokens of appreciation.

In 1950, Her Royal Highness, Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, a grand-daughter of Queen Victoria, was appointed by King George VI to be the first Chancellor of the University College of the West Indies.
UWI Vice Chancellor, Prof. E. Nigel Harris, is coordinating UWI staff, students and alumni to organise region-wide signature 60th Anniversary events. The Anniversary Celebrations were launched with a formal Opening Ceremony on Saturday, 12th January, 2008 at UWI Cave Hill, Barbados. On July 12th to 19th, 2008, there will be a special Convocation Week at UWI Mona, Jamaica, which will include an official reception hosted by UWI Chancellor, Sir George Alleyne, and a formal banquet to be attended by several regional heads of state. As the culmination of the yearlong celebrations, a gala black-tie dinner will be hosted by UWI St. Augustine Campus on December 12th, 2008. Proceeds from all UWI 60th Anniversary initiatives will be channelled into a special UWI Regional Endowment Fund, which will facilitate infrastructural projects across the region.

For more information on the UWI 60th Anniversary, please visit www.uwi.edu/60 • contact the UWI 60th Anniversary Local Organising Committee at uwi60staugustine@sta.uwi.edu Tel: (868)662-2002 Ext 3635 • UWI 60th Anniversary Secretariat, Marketing and Communications Office, UWI St. Augustine, Trinidad
What has history taught us about earthquakes?

“Many were killed. I lost five family members in the quake. But we have no time to weep. We have to work for the living right now!” Dawuti Aximu, a young Uighur man, told the Associated Press news agency in 2004, after an earthquake shook his village in the Chinese province of Xinjiang.

Almost 10,000 homes and 900 classrooms at 30 schools were levelled by the quake. At least 260 people died and more than 4,000 were injured. The quake had a severe effect on the local economy, which is heavily dependent on farming. One man who sells traditional rice and toasted mutton in the town said he had re-opened “because we all have nothing to eat. Everyone has to eat.”

“My house is gone. Three relatives are gone. But life goes on.”

Very few communities in the world have not been touched by natural disasters. In the Caribbean we’ve seen our share of tragedy. One catastrophic event that will forever be highlighted in our history books - the eruptions of Mt. Pelée in Martinique and St. Vincent’s Soufrière in 1902, where over 30,000 people died.

The Eastern Caribbean generates an earthquake of magnitude greater than 7.0 approximately every 20 years and one of magnitude 8.0 and above every one hundred years. The most recent strong earthquake was on 29th November, 2007 and occurred east of Martinique. However, there was no great earthquake, magnitude 8.0 and above, in the Eastern Caribbean during the 20th Century.

Throughout the region stakeholders including governments and architects, are becoming more aware of the need for urban planning and insight into natural disasters. History has taught us many lessons. Experts from the Seismic Research Unit explained that in the 19th Century when the colonial powers settled the islands of the Caribbean, and constructed buildings of stone, they did so ignorant of the earthquake hazard. Unfortunately the effects were disastrous - the great earthquake of 8th February 1843, east of the Lesser Antilles, between Guadeloupe and Antigua, was felt as far south as British Guiana. The high damage area had a radius of about 250 km, and extended from Saint Lucia to St. Martin. Close to the epicentral area, the city of Pointe-à-Pitre, in Guadeloupe, was destroyed and over 4,000 people lost their lives.

The Seismic Research Unit at The University of the West Indies has been actively monitoring earthquakes, volcanoes and tsunamis for the English-speaking islands of the Eastern Caribbean. When an earthquake occurs the Unit provides disaster management agencies with information on the size and location of the earthquake.

Earthquakes are caused by the movement of plates (huge slabs of rock) making up the surface of the Earth. In volcanic islands, earthquakes may also be caused by the movement of magma beneath a volcano.

Earthquakes can cause a variety of harmful effects, e.g. Intensity V.

Seismic waves are generated by the movement of a fault, and are composed of surface waves and body waves. The most intense waves are associated with body waves, which are steady and can travel through the Earth for long distances. The magnitude of an earthquake is a measure of the energy released by the earthquake, e.g. Magnitude 5.8. Intensity is a measure of the shaking and damage caused by the earthquake e.g. Intensity V.

The next time you feel an earthquake be sure to log on to our website at www.uwiseismic.com and tell us about your experience. This information helps scientists to determine the intensity of the earthquake.

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**What is the Seismic Research Unit?**

Based at The University of the West Indies’ St. Augustine campus, the SRU monitors earthquakes, volcanoes and tsunamis for the English-speaking islands of the Eastern Caribbean. When an earthquake occurs the Unit provides disaster management agencies with information on the size and location of the earthquake.

**What is an earthquake?**

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**How are earthquakes measured?**

Magnitude is the most common measure of an earthquake’s size and it is related to the amount of energy generated by the earthquake e.g. Magnitude 5.8. Intensity is a measure of the shaking and damage caused by the earthquake e.g. Intensity V.

**Earthquake effects**

Some of the earthquake effects that can be harmful to people are:

- Collapsing walls, buildings, and bridges.
- Falling furniture, shattering glass windows and mirrors.
- Falling electricity lines.
- Broken gas lines.
- Floods caused by the collapse of dam walls.
- Rock slides or landslides.
- Tsunamis - these are sea waves which can be generated by very large earthquakes.
- Liquefaction - when solid ground behaves like a liquid and can no longer support buildings. This is common on reclaimed land.

**Before an earthquake**

- Build your home in accordance with the recommended building codes. See your local disaster management office for details.
- Bolt heavy furniture, water tanks, water heaters, gas cylinders and storage units to a wall or floor.
- Place largest and heaviest items on lower shelves.
- Emergency items such as canned foods, medication, flashlights, battery-operated radios, fire extinguishers and a First Aid kit should be readily available and working properly.
- All family members should know how to use this emergency equipment and should know how to turn off electricity, gas and water using safety valves and main switches.
- All family members should know what to do during an earthquake and should practice these safety tips through regular drills.

**During an earthquake**

- **Stay Calm. Do Not Panic. Be Alert.**
- If inside stay inside, do not run out of the building.
- If inside, stand in a strong doorway or get under a sturdy desk, table or bed and hold on.

The earthquake and volcanic activity in the Eastern Caribbean result from the movement and sinking of the North American and South American Plates beneath the Caribbean Plate, a process described as subduction. On average, the Eastern Caribbean generates an earthquake of magnitude greater than 7.0 approximately every 20 years and one of magnitude 8.0 and above every one hundred years. The most recent strong earthquake was on 29th November, 2007 and occurred east of Martinique. However, there was no great earthquake, magnitude 8.0 and above, in the Eastern Caribbean during the 20th Century.

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Earthquakes can cause a variety of harmful effects, e.g. Intensity V.

**What is the Seismic Research Unit?**

Based at The University of the West Indies’ St. Augustine campus, the SRU monitors earthquakes, volcanoes and tsunamis for the English-speaking islands of the Eastern Caribbean. When an earthquake occurs the Unit provides disaster management agencies with information on the size and location of the earthquake.

**What is an earthquake?**

Earthquakes are caused by the movement of plates (huge slabs of rock) making up the surface of the Earth. In volcanic islands, earthquakes may also be caused by the movement of magma beneath a volcano.

**How are earthquakes measured?**

Magnitude is the most common measure of an earthquake’s size and it is related to the amount of energy generated by the earthquake e.g. Magnitude 5.8. Intensity is a measure of the shaking and damage caused by the earthquake e.g. Intensity V.

The next time you feel an earthquake be sure to log on to our website at www.uwiseismic.com and tell us about your experience. This information helps scientists to determine the intensity of the earthquake.

**Earthquake effects**

Some of the earthquake effects that can be harmful to people are:

- Collapsing walls, buildings, and bridges.
- Falling furniture, shattering glass windows and mirrors.
- Falling electricity lines.
- Broken gas lines.
- Floods caused by the collapse of dam walls.
- Rock slides or landslides.
- Tsunamis - these are sea waves which can be generated by very large earthquakes.
- Liquefaction - when solid ground behaves like a liquid and can no longer support buildings. This is common on reclaimed land.

**Before an earthquake**

- Build your home in accordance with the recommended building codes. See your local disaster management office for details.
- Bolt heavy furniture, water tanks, water heaters, gas cylinders and storage units to a wall or floor.
- Place largest and heaviest items on lower shelves.
- Emergency items such as canned foods, medication, flashlights, battery-operated radios, fire extinguishers and a First Aid kit should be readily available and working properly.
- All family members should know how to use this emergency equipment and should know how to turn off electricity, gas and water using safety valves and main switches.
- All family members should know what to do during an earthquake and should practice these safety tips through regular drills.

**During an earthquake**

- **Stay Calm. Do Not Panic. Be Alert.**
- If inside stay inside, do not run out of the building.
- If inside, stand in a strong doorway or get under a sturdy desk, table or bed and hold on.

Today we have that fascinating, ominous fire breather in Montserrat, which has been erupting since 1995. The eruption of the Soufrière Hills volcano has made two-thirds of the island unsafe for human occupation, causing a mass migration of almost half of the population. The danger from an active volcano should not be taken lightly: ash can affect the operation of jet engines, and cause them to stall while an active volcano should not be taken lightly: ash can affect the operation of jet engines, and cause them to stall while
Dr. Neela Badrie, senior lecturer of the UWI Department of Food Production, has been working on industrial food product development from exotic tropical fruits and on public health food safety issues. Processed products from tropical crops such as the carambola, cashew apples, cacao pulp, breadfruit and sorrel are some examples of her contribution to specialty tropical crops. Her innovative research involves modification of technology to suit crops, understanding the interaction of components and their effects on microbiological, compositional, sensory, physical and chemical properties.

Over the years, Dr. Badrie has emphasized the development of novel functional products such as healthy low-calorie products, including christophene, sorrel jams, sorrel wines with antioxidants, low sodium golden apple hot sauces, sorrel yoghurt with flax seeds/soy protein. Her research activities include utilization of waste material such as banana and plantain peel in wines and the by-products such as including cacao pulp in yoghurts and syrups. It is not surprising that some of the industrial products have already found immediate applications locally. Also several professionals have used some her innovative techniques in their work on product development.

Dr. Valentin Díaz Perez of Spain used information from one of her publications (Maharaj and Badrie, 2006), in the technology of osmotic dehydration of carambola in a support programme in Bolivia, working with local producers in the Amazonic area.

Dr. Badrie has also collaborated with researchers throughout the Caribbean and the developing world on food safety and microbiological research. Her research has covered microbiological analysis of street foods, such as beef patties, hygienic practices of street-food vendors of ‘doubles’, consumer perception to bioterrorism, food safety practices, genetically modified foods and organic vegetables, microbiological analysis of water used for processing poultry, seafoods and consuming public perception to vending practices of doubles.

In collaboration with researchers of the Caribbean Epidemiology Centre (CAREC), Public Health Agency of Canada, Ministry of Health, Trinidad and Tobago and the Pan American health Organization/World Health organization, a Burden of Illness (BOI) Study for Trinidad and Tobago is being undertaken.

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**FLORA EXOTICA**

*Food product development and safety at UWI*

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**BITTER CASSAVA AT UWI**

The UWI Centre for Creative and Festival Arts recently staged “Bitter Cassava” from March 28th to 30th and April 4th to 6th 2008, at the Learning Resource Centre (LRC) at the St. Augustine Campus. Written by Lester Efebo Wilkinson, Bitter Cassava was first produced in November 1979 for the Folk Theatre Festival component of the Prime Minister’s Best Village Trophy Competition. In 1984, it was the opening play for the Drama Festival and subsequently copped several awards that year including awards for playwriting, acting and choreography and went on to appear, in August of 1984, at the International Amateur Theatre Festival held in Los Angles, USA, in honor of the Olympics. UWI Lecturer Louis Mc Williams directed the production.
The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus, Office of Planning and Development has developed a first year student experience survey to be administered face to face by postgraduate students before the start of final semester examinations. Respondents will be selected using a representative sampling technique. Student responses will provide both academics and administrators with important feedback that will be used in education planning to improve the student experience. All information that is offered is welcomed and will be treated confidentially. A number of prizes will be offered as an incentive to students to complete the questionnaire.

From its first class of 33 medical students in 1948, UWI has been dedicated to the advancement of the Caribbean region, consistently providing its leaders not only in medicine but also in government, businesses, education, law, engineering, and other key sectors. As we celebrate our 60th anniversary, UWI stands proudly as an icon of Caribbean integration and culture, steadfast in its commitment to driving the economic, social, political and cultural development of West Indian society through teaching, research innovation and intellectual leadership.

COME CELEBRATE WITH US.

For more information on the UWI 60th Anniversary contact the UWI 60th Anniversary Local Organising Committee at uwi60@staugustine@sta.uwi.edu
Tel: (686)362-2002 Ext 3635 • UWI 60th Anniversary Secretariat, Marketing and Communications Office, UWI St. Augustine, Trinidad

Visit www.uwi.edu/60
Jonathan Kacal has continued several family traditions including becoming an Engineer, like his father, two uncles and older brother. But the 37 year old has also introduced a new tradition – archery. It’s a sport that is growing in Trinidad and Tobago and one that Jonathan’s particularly good at, although the unassuming master archer would be hard pressed to admit it.

But one quick google of his name brings forward an impressive listing. A Trinidad Guardian (March 2006) piece speaks of his rise in world rankings, earning the first medal for the country at international competition level.

Once again, 35 year-old Jonathan Kacal, was in impressive form in international competition for T&T. The former student of Fatima College in Port of Spain, earned his country’s first ever medal at global level at the 23rd Battle of Carabobo tournament. Kacal helped T&T to the bronze medal in the Olympic Bow team event (an achievement that moved this country up to 41st place in the FITA’s international rankings).

He also earned fifth-place in the Olympic Bow 30 m with a new national record tally of 341 points (to surpass the old mark of 337) and also broke the national record in the FITA Ranking Round by achieving a score of 1167. Kacal’s old mark of 337) and also broke the national record in the rankings.

He has definitely taken-up the challenge. Since joining the National Shooting Team in 2001, his rankings have climbed quickly, having held the national championship title in 2005 and 2007 and competed at over 20 tournaments across the globe, including those in Brazil, Barbados, Colombia and Santo Domingo. In 2003 and 2005 he was nominated for Sportsman of the Year for Archery in T&T.

A graduate of The UWI Faculty of Engineering at the St Augustine Campus (class of 1993), he’s currently Senior Engineer, Protection and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) Department at the Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission (T&TEC). Jonathan explained that he was drawn to archery because it was “a highly technical sport and with an Engineering background I liked the technical part and I liked that it was outdoors”.

“I actually got into archery just about when I was leaving UWI, in fact at that time archery was just starting up formally as a registered federation. . .I found out through a gentleman named David King who was the founding president of the T&T Target Archery Federation; I met him through a colleague and I just tried it.”

He would go on to become the current President of that very Federation, a position he has held for three years and Vice President prior to that for two years.

The Kacal (pronounced Kah-sal) family are originally from Czechoslovakia; Jonathan’s grandfather migrated to Trinidad from Europe in the 1930s with the Bata Company. He settled in Diego Martin and began a woodworking company which his son, Vladimir, (Jonathan’s father) has continued to manage. Unfortunately, Jonathan’s mother, a multi-talented teacher, art dealer and environmental consultant, passed away five years ago, ultimately succumbing to malaria while working on a forest co-management and sustainable livelihood project in Malawi. He has said that he’s learnt a lot from his parents including: “discipline and to better yourself and to rise to challenges”.

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He has his best result as placing fourth in 2002 in Venezuela at the Battle of Carabobo, which is one of the Grand Prix Tournaments of the Americas. A committed team player he’s also proud of being part of the national team which took home bronze in 2005, an historic win, as it was the “first medal won by Trinidadian archers in a world ranked tournament”.

At a national tournament there may be as many as sixty competitors; and so with increasing support from the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs and the T&T Olympic Committee, along with a spike in enrollment and the increase in awards gained by local archers, it’s no surprise that Trinidad and Tobago will host the South Caribbean Archery Championship in May.

The popularity of archery in Trinidad has also grown, especially among young people; interesting for a sport that dates as far back as 50,000 BC to Africa where the first stone arrowheads were probably constructed. Today, the Federation has expanded in size to have four clubs/branches in West, East, Central and South Trinidad; with training grounds in Chaguaramas, Tunapuna, Charlieville and Gasparillo. Here, beginners, starting from 10 years, are provided with entry level equipment which includes bow, arrows, targets and some protective gear and of course training. But it’s not just a youth sport, it’s attracting sportsmen and women of all ages including senior citizens. There are local archers in their sixties competing nationally and doing very well.

“Archery helps with your sanity basically,” Jonathan added with a laugh. “You’re doing something other than what you do at work or at home. It helps you to expand your horizons; archery helps with your discipline; it helps you to be a little more centred; and being an individual sport, it helps you to self-motivate. It keeps you out of trouble too.”

For more information please e-mail jeskacal@tstt.net.tt.
On Friday 27th July 1990 Raoul Pantin a Trinidadian journalist of high repute was editing material for the evening tele-cast when he was disturbed by noises in the corridor of Trinidad and Tobago Television building. The disturbance, unbelievably, was caused by an armed invasion of the country’s lone television station by a small group of fundamentalist Muslims known as the Jamaat al Muslimeen. The coup lasted 6 days and In Days of Wrath – the 1990 Coup in Trinidad and Tobago Pantin, himself a hostage in the television station recalls the terror of those days. A real page-turner, the slim 163 page book reads like a thriller which in one sense it is, albeit a true one. Pantin’s style can easily be described as cinematic, so alive and detailed the writing, not surprising since he also wrote the screenplay for the movie Bim, long regarded as a classic by critics.

The coup, we are told was “a planned, probably rehearsed, coordinated, synchronized lightning strike, they (the Muslimeen) had launched an armed assault on a sitting of the regular Friday afternoon meeting of the House of Representatives – shot to death the lone security policeman at police headquarters on adjoining St. Vincent Street, exploded a car bomb that set the entire headquarters on fire, taken over both [Trinidad and Tobago Television] TTT and its neighbouring Radio Trinidad”.

Beyond these Days of Wrath, Pantin effectively conveys the zeitgeist, suggesting how social and historical factors created the strained economic situation in the country: the unpopularity of the Prime Minister, the unstable political scenario, conditions conducive to the emergence of the Muslimeen and its leader Abu Bakr.

The attempted coup only lasted a few hours and by the end of that day, Friday 27th July, Abu Bakr and his band of 114 gunmen, in the words of the author, were “dead men walking”. Pantin explains that although the Muslimeen were always aware that they were outnumbered by the police and the regiment, Abu Bakr had erroneously anticipated the support of the people, (they only went on a looting spree) and of the armed forces (they, in the words of the Prime Minister, “attacked with full force”). Indeed the terror of the coup increased as the days progressed and many conflicting initiatives were tried.

The hostages grew more fearful, informed and misinformed by a very active grapevine that somehow brought news to the gunmen and the hostages. There was talk of a surrender being negotiated; of the granting of an amnesty; of various important persons coming to negotiate; and as the hopes of the hostages went up and down, there was the unavailing determination of the army to overpower by sheer force and capture the insurgents. Pantin skilfully conveys the tension in T&T in those roller coaster days and his concern for the safety of the sixty-nine hostages. As one would expect from Pantin, the journalist, the humour and irony of the situation is highlighted. The image of Bakr using his AK-47 rifle as a microphone singing along with a popular calypso on the radio joined by two or three other gunmen one of them using his rifle butt as a drum and the other strumming an imaginary guitar. The calypso is Sniper’s Portrait of Trinidad – “Trinidad is my land and to love it I am proud and glad”; Bakr inviting the hostages to dinner at Mucurapo Road when they all get back home.

The young fundamentalist gunman asking Pantin, the hostage, to buy a TV set, A video Set, A Washing Machine and a Fridge for his wife from the profits of the book he will write about the coup.

More striking, and at times ellusive, are the writer’s constant explanations of the characteristics of the Trinidadian. He seems to be doing more than just clarifying the expressions and behaviour for the foreign reader. Near the end of the book he writes, “In more ways than one I believe even to this day, 17 years after the fact, that the vast majority of the laid-back, fun-loving, party-going, creative, Nine-Day-Wonder, Carnivalesque people of Trinidad and Tobago have little or no idea what we really managed to elude in 1990”. He really seems to be asking - How could this happen in T&T, how could we Trinidadians behave in this way?

This seems to be Raoul Pantin’s dilemma and indeed that of the nation. For the author it seems there is a constant need for recall, for the facts to be laid bare and examined, or else the old, much beaten adage “Those who forget the past are doomed to repeat it” will remain an imminent threat.
OXFORD AND GSB COLLABORATE
The recent partnership of The UWI Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business (GSB) in Trinidad with Oxford University, U.K., underscores its commitment to strengthening international linkages with quality institutions. The Oxford Said Business School is one of Europe’s most highly recognized, rapidly growing business institutions. The recent collaboration has resulted in a landmark programme, the Oxford-Lok Jack GSB Scenarios Programme. This five-day workshop, taught by Faculty of the Oxford Said Business School, will be held in July at the GSB. Tailored for those seeking to develop skills and techniques for scenario building and strategic engagement, the programme will be administered by the Arthur Lok Jack GSB to CEOs and other executives in the public and private sector. “Because of this partnership, Executives will no longer have to leave their families and pay exorbitant travel fees to participate in such a programme,” explained Joy-Roma Santo, Manager, Conferencing and Executive Education, Arthur Lok Jack GSB. “At the same time they will be receiving a quality international education.” For more information please contact the Communications Unit: 662-9894 ext. 154.
UWI CALENDAR of EVENTS
APRIL/MAY

Agritech 2008
National Agricultural Expo
Wednesday 16th – Sunday 20th April, 2008
Agritech 2008 is landmark initiative focused on assisting in the restructuring and revitalization of the agriculture industry in the region. At the University Field Station the latest technologies driving agriculture globally will be presented in a modern farm setting. This exhibition will focus on several fundamental themes from Crop Farming Systems to Alternate Agriculture Livelihoods, and Plant & Animal Health. Primary, secondary and tertiary level students, stakeholders within the Agricultural Industry as well as the general public are all invited. The Agricultural Society of Trinidad and Tobago and the Ministry of Agriculture, Marine & Land Resources are the major sponsors for Agritech 2008. The event is part of the 60th anniversary celebrations of The University of the West Indies.

For further information please call 662-2002 Ext. 2318.

Communications Week
Wednesday 16th – Friday 18th April, 2008
Get connected at Communication Research Day (17th) where final year students showcase their research projects; then get answers to those burning questions at Communication Studies Open Day (18th) at the Atrium, Centre for Language and Learning (C.L.L.). You can also enjoy the book drive hosted by the Communication Studies Association, an academic club associated with the host of Communications Week, the UWI Communication Studies Section, Faculty of Humanities and Education.

For further information contact:
Ms. Crista Mohammed at ext. 3867.
For information on the Book Drive please call Ms. Jamilla Bannister at 737-8900.

Milestones in Computer Algebra
Thursday 1st – Saturday 3rd May, 2008
This landmark conference in honour of Keith Geddes’ 60th Birthday, the co-founder of the Maple computer algebra systems, will take place at Stonehaven Bay, Tobago. Here’s an opportunity to share ideas and experience presentations by renowned specialists in the field.

For further information please visit: https://www.orcca.on.ca/conferences/mica2008

HRM: Adding Value or Adding Complexity?
The Association of Commonwealth Universities
HR Network
3rd Biennial Conference
Friday 23rd – Sunday 25th May, 2008
Examine the challenges currently facing University Human Resource professionals at this upcoming UWI/ACU conference at the Hilton Hotel, Tobago. The Conference will examine three key areas: Developing Leadership and Management capability, Managing Performance, and Enhancing the Institution.

For further information please contact:
Mrs. Deborah Souza-Okofoabri at Deborah.souzaokfoabri@sta.uwi.edu

60th Anniversary Celebration
UWI Family Day
Thursday 22nd May, 2008
As part of the 60th Anniversary celebrations, UWI will host a Family Day on Thursday 22nd May, 2008 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Sport and Physical Education Centre (SPEC), St Augustine. Open to all staff, the Day will be filled with fun activities and special games for the entire family to enjoy.

For more information please contact the UWI Marketing and Communications Office at 662-2002 ext 2014.

Archaeology and Geoinformatics: Case Studies from the Caribbean
Friday 2nd May, 2008
Uncover our history through the latest publication by leading UWI archaeologist, Dr. Basil Reid. The Department of History will host the launch of “Archaeology and Geoinformatics: Case Studies from the Caribbean” edited by Dr. Basil A. Reid and published by the University of Alabama Press, Tuscaloosa, U.S.A. at Lecture Room 2, UWI Learning Resource Centre.

For further information please visit: https://www.sta.uwi.edu/news/ecalendar/event.asp?id=339 or contact Dr. Basil Reid at Basil.Reid@sta.uwi.edu or ext. 3306.

For UWI Today – Sunday 13th April, 2008
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