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[ **Sports News Release** ]

### **CUC Sponsors 2009 CARIFTA Team**

The 12-member 2009 Cayman Islands CARIFTA Track and Field Team were presented to the media on Wednesday, April 8 at the Truman Bodden Sports Complex prior to their departure for the 38<sup>th</sup> CARIFTA Games, which were held in St. Lucia over the Easter weekend. Assisting Rayle Roberts, President of the Cayman Islands Athletic Association (CIAA), with the presentation were Angela Martins, Chief Officer for the Ministry of Education, Training, Employment, Youth, Sports and Culture, Richard Hew, CUC's President and Chief Executive Officer, and Sana Tugman, CARIFTA Team Manager.

The team, captained by Alexandra Terry and Travis Webb, consisted of six male and six female athletes. In the Girls Under-17 Division, team members included Chantelle Morrison in the 100 metres (m), 200m and 4x100m relay, Melinda McLean in the 200m and 4x100m relay, Gizelle Wright in the 100m and 4x100m relay, and Ashleigh Nalty in the Long Jump, High Jump and 4x100m relay. In the Girls Under-20 Division, team members included Alexandra Terry in the Discus and Anissa Owens in the Shot Put. In the Boys Under-17 Division, team members included Andrew Frederick from the Brac in the Shot Put and Mauricio Terry in the Javelin and High Jump. In the Boys Under-20 Division, team members included Steven Reid in the 100m, 200m and 4x100m relay, Travis Webb in the High Jump, Long Jump and 4x100m relay, Joseph Suberan in the 100m, 200m and 4x100m relay, and Mitchell Forbes in the Long Jump and 4x100m relay.

To begin proceedings, Rayle Roberts presented the team and commended the athletes for their dedication and hard work in achieving the qualifying times and distances. He anticipated a good showing from the Cayman contingent as in previous years, and expressed the Association's appreciation to the coaches, parents and many volunteers who worked tirelessly in preparing the athletes for this important regional competition. In closing, Mr. Roberts thanked CUC and the Government for their continued support of athletics.

Following Mrs. Martins' words of praise for the CIAA and encouragement for the athletes, CUC's Richard Hew congratulated the athletes on their achievements and urged them to always perform at their best. He then presented Mr. Roberts of the Association with the third installment of the Company's Quadrennial



Sponsorship, which was agreed to in 2007 further solidifying CUC's relationship with Cayman's rising track stars and current Olympians. 2009 marks the 23<sup>rd</sup> year that CUC, the main corporate sponsors of the CIAA, have been involved with the Association and its endeavours, particularly the CARIFTA Games.

In marking the occasion Mr. Hew commented, "Our long relationship with the CIAA has produced regional and international champion athletes of whom we are extremely proud. The greater pleasure however is knowing that for every champion produced there are hundreds of Caymanians who are better citizens today because they participated in the CIAA programme that built character in their developing years. For this we congratulate and thank the CIAA Executive, its coaching staff and numerous volunteers and we look forward to continuing our relationship for many years to come."

The team competed extraordinarily well in St. Lucia, with Chantelle Morrison collecting a bronze medal in the Under-17 100m with a time of 11.688 seconds. Other notable performances included a fourth place finish for Ashleigh Nalty in the Under-17 High Jump with a leap of 1.60m and first-time Cayman Brac representative Andrew Frederick's sixth place finish in the Under-17 Shot Put with a distance of 11.94m. For complete results, visit [www.cfpitiming.com/2009%20Outdoor/Carifta\\_2009/Carifta\\_Games\\_2009.htm](http://www.cfpitiming.com/2009%20Outdoor/Carifta_2009/Carifta_Games_2009.htm).

CUC congratulates the team of athletes for an excellent performance in St. Lucia and are very proud to have played a supporting role in their development and achievements. With the promising results in the Under-17 and Under-20 divisions, we look forward to a bright future for track and field in the Cayman Islands.

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