

Sports & Entertainment

Statements from VP Records on the passing of rapper star Lieutenant Stitchie known as ‘The Governor’ to fans

VP Records joins Jamaica and the global reggae and dancehall community in mourning the passing of Lieutenant Stitchie, O.D., born Cleveland Laing.



Lieutenant Stitchie known as ‘The Governor’

October 2, 2026- Affectionately known as “The Governor,” Lieutenant Stitchie was a gifted lyricist, educator, and man of faith whose unmistakable delivery, sharp wit and disciplined artistry helped shape dancehall during one of its defining eras. His transition to gospel reggae reflected the deep conviction and sense of purpose that guided both his music and his life.

VP Records is deeply honored to be part of his musical journey through the release of his 1995 album, Gangsta. His work remains an important part of our history and Jamaica’s rich cultural legacy.

"We convey our deepest heartfelt condolences during this profoundly difficult time to his wife, Sophia, and his entire family. Our sympathies to his friends, colleagues, fellow artistes, and fans around the world who are mourning this tremendous loss of the Governor" said Chris Chin CEO of VP Music Group

ABOUT VP RECORDS

VP Records is a global record label and distributor specializing in reggae, dancehall, and Caribbean music. With longstanding roots in Kingston Jamaica which started as a reggae label, the company was founded by Vincent Chin and Patricia Chin, whose Randy’s Record Mart and Studio 17 helped shape the early recording landscape of Jamaican music.

Following the family’s move to New York in the late 1970s, VP Records expanded its retail, distribution, and label operations,

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playing a central role in bringing Jamaican music to international audiences during the rise of dancehall and beyond. Today, as part of VP Music Group, the company spans recorded music, publishing, distribution, retail, and licensing, with operations across North America, the Caribbean, Europe, and Asia.

VP’s catalog bridges multiple eras of Caribbean music, including releases from Sean Paul, Shaggy, Beenie Man, Beres Hammond, and Spice, alongside a broad roster of contemporary artists. Its archive has expanded through the acquisition of Greensleeves Records and the launch of reissue imprint 17 North Parade, positioning the company among the largest holders of reggae and dancehall recordings worldwide. Making it a cornerstone label known for its global reach of reggae and dancehall music.

For more than four decades, VP Records continues to release new projects while maintaining one of the genre’s most extensive catalogs.

Stokes named to Manning Award Stars... from sports page 1

down pass to Jermaine Hayes, the second-longest passing play in program history and third-longest offensive play ever by the Tigers.

Stokes followed up his pass to Hayes with four more touchdown passes to Jemyri Davis, Stonka Burnside and Hunter Tipton twice. The West Florida transfer also finished as Memphis’ second-leading rusher in the win, gaining 61 yards on nine carries.

Stokes, a native of St. Augustine, Florida, ranks within the top 20 nationally in completion percentage (ninth, 73.2), passing efficiency (fourth, 199.5), passing touchdowns (sixth, 14), passing yards (16th, 1,371), total offense (12th, 304.6) and yards per pass attempt (first, 11.15).

Earlier, Stokes was named the American’s Offensive Player of the Week and was on the Davey O’Brien “Davey Double” Great 8 list.

To see the full list of Manning Award Stars of the Week, visit

www.gotigersgo.com

Memphis (4-1, 1-0 American) is set for a home rivalry matchup against UAB (3-2, 1-0 American) in the Battle for the Bones. Kickoff for the game is set for 6 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 10 and will air on ESPN2.

BUY TICKETS NOW

Single-game tickets can be purchased online or by calling the Memphis Ticket Office at (901) 678-2331. For group tickets and experiences, please contact the Memphis Ticket Office at (901) 678-2331.

For premium seating experiences, please contact the Memphis Athletic Fund at MAFPremium@memphis.edu.

For complete information on Memphis Tigers Football, visit www.GoTigersGo.com and follow the team's social media channels on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.

Memphis Madness honors iconic Memphis Zoo for first-ever Zoo Hoops celebration sponsored by Campbell Clinic, October 13

MEMPHIS, Tenn., October 1, 2026 - For the first time in Memphis Madness history, Memphis men's and women's basketball will bring the city's premier pre-season celebration to one of its most iconic destinations as Memphis Madness Presents Zoo Hoops, sponsored by Campbell Clinic, takes over the Memphis Zoo on Tuesday, Oct. 13.

The free event will transform the Zoo into a one-of-a-kind festival featuring Tigers Basketball, family-friendly entertainment, music, interactive activities and unforgettable fan experiences as Memphis Athletics and the Memphis Zoo team up to celebrate the start of the 2026-27 basketball season.

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Doors open at 5 p.m., with fes-



tivities beginning at 6 p.m. Fans of all ages are invited to pack the Zoo for a high-energy evening that is uniquely Memphis.

The 90-minute showcase will feature appearances by the 2026-27 men's and women's basketball teams, performances by the Mighty Sound of the South and Memphis Spirit Squads, and live entertainment from DJ Mic Tee. Families can enjoy trick-or-treat stations, face painting, special giveaways, and select Zoo Boo attractions throughout the evening, along with access to the popular Zip Line and Memphis Zoo

Farmer Train rides.

The spotlight will then shift to the court as Tiger fans get an up-close look at their teams through a series of interactive competitions along with t-shirt launches, giveaways and surprise appearances throughout the evening. Following the on-court festivities, fans will have the opportunity to meet both teams during a special autograph and meet-and-greet session.

With free admission, family-friendly attractions, and exclusive opportunities to interact with

Tiger Basketball, Zoo Hoops promises to deliver one of the most unique and memorable Memphis Madness experiences ever.

Fans are encouraged to arrive early, wear Tiger Blue and bring their Tiger pride as Memphis Basketball takes over the Memphis Zoo for a night of hoops, hometown spirit, and fun.

For complete information on Memphis Tigers Athletics, visit www.GoTigersGo.com and follow the department's social media channels on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.

Horseshoe Tunica donates \$10,000 to the Kosten Foundation in support of Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Gala

The donation will support An Evening of Hope & Harmony and the Foundation’s mission to advance pancreatic cancer research

MEMPHIS, Tenn., October 1, 2026 — The Herb Kosten Pancreatic Cancer Research Foundation announced a \$10,000 donation from Horseshoe Tunica, a Caesars Entertainment property, in support of An Evening of Hope & Harmony, a pancreatic cancer awareness gala taking place November 13, 2026, at the DeSoto County Agri-Education Center in Nesbit, Mississippi.

The event will bring together pancreatic cancer survivors, families, caregivers, healthcare advocates, local businesses, churches, and community supporters to raise awareness, provide resources, share stories of hope, and generate support for the Kosten Foundation’s mission.

More information and tickets can be purchased at this link <https://givebutter.com/c/evening-of-hope-and-harmony-a4u5gf>.

“We are incredibly grateful to Horseshoe Tunica and Caesars Entertainment for this generous investment in our mission and in the Mid-South community,” said Alan Kosten, Chairman of the Kosten Foundation. “This support will help us bring people together in DeSoto County to increase awareness of pancreatic cancer while raising critical funds for research. Partnerships like this allow us to continue working toward better outcomes for patients and families affected by this disease.”

An Evening of Hope & Harmony will focus on pancreatic cancer awareness, education, early detection, and the experiences of survivors and families. The event is also designed to expand the Kosten Foundation’s community outreach in DeSoto County and lay the groundwork for future awareness and support

initiatives.

“Supporting organizations that make a meaningful difference in the communities we serve is important to Horseshoe Tunica and Caesars Entertainment,” said Malia Jackson, Vice President of Human Resources. “The Kosten Foundation’s commitment to pancreatic cancer research,

The Foundation’s annual Kick It 5K will also return Sunday, Oct. 25, bringing together runners, walkers, survivors, families, and supporters to raise funds and awareness for pancreatic cancer research. The annual event is one of the Kosten Foundation’s signature fundraisers and provides another opportunity for the Mid-

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awareness, and support for patients and families is making an impact throughout the Mid-South. We are proud to support An Evening of Hope & Harmony and help further that important work.”

The Kosten Foundation supports pancreatic cancer research while providing resources and support for patients, survivors, caregivers, and families. Since its founding, the Foundation has donated more than \$3.5 million to pancreatic cancer research.

An Evening of Hope & Harmony

Friday, Nov. 13, 2026
DeSoto County Agri-Education Center
1170 Star Landing Road
Nesbit, MS 38651

Kick It 5K
Sunday, Oct. 25, 2026

“We are incredibly grateful to Horseshoe Tunica and Caesars Entertainment for this generous investment in our mission and in the Mid-South community,” said Alan Kosten, Chairman of the Kosten Foundation. “This support will help us bring people together in DeSoto County to increase awareness of pancreatic cancer while raising critical funds for research. Partnerships like this allow us to continue working toward better outcomes for patients and families affected by this disease.”

Mullins Station Event Field at Shelby Farms Park

For more information about the Kosten Foundation, pancreatic cancer resources, or ways to support its mission, visit kostenfoundation.com.

