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## AL-B creating new beach vacations

### Volleyball Vacations making a mark

By Monique Moyal / AVP.com

Now that summer is here, fans and AVP players alike can hit the sandy courts side by side.

Albert Hannemann, a champion on tour who never stops giving back to the community, an entrepreneur and founder of [VolleyballVacations.com](http://VolleyballVacations.com) — a company that was established over 10 years ago and brought nearly 100 fans worldwide together in his first trip in 1995. Volleyball Vacations are produced in tropical destinations where volleyball enthusiasts learn beach volleyball from the best professionals in the world.

"With VolleyballVacations.com I create a venue for fans and volleyball enthusiasts to travel to amazing destinations to learn and play volleyball and basically spend a week hanging out with the top pros the sport has to offer," said Hannemann. "I have developed these trips and improved them over the years to become the number one vacation where anyone that loves volleyball can expect a great experience and most importantly gain new friendships from like minded athletes from all over the world. "

If you have time to check out an AVP event this season, stop in on one of Hannemann's matches. You will have to fight for a courtside spot, because his fans are so numerous and spread throughout the country.

Typically Hannemann puts on five to six events with the company, and is already preparing for No. 3 of the 2007 season. The next stop on the VBV tour will coincide with the AVP Long Beach Open next month.

"A lot of fans from around the country want to come and watch an AVP tournament in California, so I decided to add the volleyball vacation element to it. After cheering for their favorite players at the Long Beach Open they will start clinics and tournaments on Monday taught by these same pros," said Hannemann. "During the weekend, they are able to join in at all the AVP parties and they get shown around the event. And then on Monday we start our clinics. They run from 9-6 every day. We run tournaments, clinics and then they actually get to play with and against the pros."

In January the group traveled to Mexico to kick off the year and in February trekked out to the Caribbean for some volleyball in paradise. And after having participated in one of the largest AVP events of the year, as Southern California tops the attendance charts, the next event will take place in October.

As if planning these vacations, running the Dig for Kids book drives and playing on tour every week wasn't enough, Hannemann said that he wanted to take Volleyball Vacations to the next level with his newest company, called [UltimateSportsVacations.com](http://UltimateSportsVacations.com).

USV is the same idea as Volleyball Vacations, intersecting with many other professional sports.

A fall vacation to the Turks & Caicos Islands from Oct. 27 to Nov. 3 will be the inaugural USV event.

"What we're doing is bringing in not just volleyball but all sports: volleyball, tennis, golf, trapeze, scuba, martial arts, yoga, fitness and tai-chi," said Hannemann. "And then there's some video analysts, bio-mechanical nutritionists and other valuable sports specialists there to consult with the entire group. It's a really cool event that has taken over 5 years of planning. "I have finally figured out that the volleyball vacations formula has a solid and successful structure and teach it to other professional athletes and create opportunities for them to start a business that gives back to the fans that drive our sports."

"We're in charge of all the entertainment, the scheduling, everything. We have Cirque du Soleil trapeze guy, an ATP tennis guy, a PGA golfer and the best scuba company in the world coming in."

"I decided that it's time to go ahead and expand," said Hannemann. "USV is a full on sports and entertainment event, so I'm talking to a lot of sports and social clubs around the country, and they're very excited to join our team. We have some top level musicians, comedians and DJ's coming to create the nightlife that will rival the hard core daytime activities. "People love to go on vacation and play hard. They also want to cut loose at night and enjoy themselves. You don't have to think too hard when you understand what our theme is from day one. Play and Party with the Pros is what we are all about and we make sure that everyone has the time of their lives."