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Heraldo Filipino

Voice, Virtue, Vigilance!

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WE ARE ONE

De La Salle Philippines, Inc. launched

By **Jecoup Asombrado** with reports from **Patricia Cruz**

The De La Salle University System is now a thing of the past as 18 De La Salle schools all over the country are now united and known as De La Salle Philippines, Incorporated (DLSP).

Executive Vice President (EVP) Dr. Estrellita Gruenberg said that effective May 16 the university system stopped existing and has been replaced by DLSP. It is under the slogan "One La Salle" as the new system aims to establish a unified implementation of the Lasallian Mission and to promote synergy among its member schools through a centralized network.

In a centralized network, certain areas for synergy will be focused on. Those areas are the formation and pastoral ministry, curriculum review and development, student services, alumni relations and development, human resource development, information management, investments, purchasing, insurance, and construction.

In an article published by the *HERALDO FILIPINO* on March 2006, Br. Armin Luistro FSC shared his vision of "One La Salle." He pointed out the advantages of a united De La Salle schools system, such as the sharing of resources and transfer of technology, cheaper purchase of school

facilities and equipment, and the self sufficiency of each school.

In November 2005, Br. Armin was elected DLSP president. Br. Armin now assumes the functions of both Chief Mission Officer (CMO) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

As CMO, Br. Armin's main concerns are the promotion of coordination, collaboration, and unity of all its member schools. He encourages the administrators of each member schools to meet and discuss how they can help each other manage their respective schools. Furthermore, the DLSP President will respect the authority and proper autonomies entitled to each school board.

As CEO, the DLSP President's task is the promulgation of policies and guidelines formed by the National Mission Council (NMC) to the schools. NMC was established to serve as DLSP's Board of Trustees and act as the highest policy-making body of the school network.

It has 15 members coming from the member schools with Br. Edmundo Fernandez FSC and Ramon del Rosario Jr. as co-chairs, Michael Gamu as treasurer, and Atty. Cirilo Tolosa as corporate council. The NMC's role is to guide DLSP in its operations.

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Passing on the green flame. Br. Armin Luistro FSC (left) and Br. Rafael Donato (right) welcome the new president of DLSU-D and DLS-HSC, Br. Manuel "Mawel" Pajarillo (center). Photo by Mark Sherwin Maestro

Enrolment rate declines by 0.59%; CBA leads roster

By **Jecoup Asombrado**

DLSU-D is a few students shy in matching up last year's enrolment rate. This semester, 11,641 students enrolled, down by 0.59 per cent from last year's 11,710 students. However, the enrolment rate is up 7.42 per cent compared with last semester's 10,837 students.

According to the Registrar's enrolment statistics, of the 11,641 students enrolled, the undergraduate programs accumulated 11,173

students while the graduate programs have 468 enrollees.

The College of Business Administration (CBA) is still undisputed, having the most number of enrollees despite going down from last year's 3,149 students to 3,108 this semester.

The College of Engineering and Technology followed with 2,214 students, up 5.79 per cent from last year's 2,089 students. Moreover, DLSU-D welcomed 2,870 first year students and 214 transferees.

The Graduate School of Business acquired 166 students while the Graduate School of Education, Arts, and Sciences has 302 students.

On the other hand, DLS-Health Sciences Campus has 773 students who enrolled in subjects offered by DLSU-D.

The CBA Free Evening Class program has 80 enrollees, while 109 students have cross-enrolled. Adding those figures will result to 12,603 students on campus.

University Registrar Joseph

Dinglasan said that the school achieved the projected number of enrollees and the drop from last year's rate is just minimal. Dinglasan furthered that the number of transferees compensated for the lesser number of freshmen. "*Kung nagkulang man ng kaunti sa freshmen, syung [number] ng transferees ang nagpunan din,*" he said.

Dinglasan added that so far he hasn't received any complaints regarding classroom assignments or shortage of rooms. DLSU-D has stopped accepting enrollees

since June 30.

Record holders

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration major in Business Management has the most number of enrollees with 1,366 students, comprising 43.95 per cent of the CBA population. Bachelor of Science in Hotel and Restaurant Management came second with 807 students, followed by Bachelor of Science in Business Administration major in Marketing and Advertising

Management with 759 students, Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with 708, Bachelor of Science in Computer Science with 686, and Bachelor of Science in Electronics and Communications Engineering with 669.

Although the number of female enrollees is down from last year's 6,164 to 5,997, they still outnumbered the males with only 5,644 enrollees. However, the number of males is up from last year's 5,546. (See **Enrolment statistics** on page 2.)

Admin plans to replace "fire-prone" fans

By **Purple Chrystyl Romero**

"Plans of replacing fans with plastic bases are being made since they are prone to fire when they overheat."

This, according to Building and Grounds-Office Director Dennis Pontanilla, is one of the steps being considered by his office to prevent another fire in the dormitory.

This was introduced after the Operations Office, the Security Personnel, and Pontanilla's unit found that the fire on June 14 in Room 202 of the new DLSU-D dormitory was caused by a ceiling fan whose plastic base overheated.

Jesus Roda, head of Security Personnel, and Dr. Pat Alcartado, officer-in-charge of the Operations Office,

who conducted investigations on the cause of the fire, have agreed that the ceiling fan probably overheated due to overuse. Pontanilla added that a ceiling fan with a plastic base is another factor, for it easily succumbs to fire as compared to units with metal bases.

When asked about the kind of ceiling fans that are installed in the dormitory, Pontanilla answered, "*Halo-halo. Pero mas marami ang may plastic bases sa may metal bases.*"

Pontanilla said that he has no authorized information if the ceiling fans in the dormitory were newly purchased for the school year, but he and his office have assured that the units in the dormitory are all in "working condition."

He furthered that his office has a stock of ceiling fans with metal bases which will be used to replace units that are beyond repair. Replacements are usually done after an electrical equipment meets the end of its "life span," which covers a varied number of years for each set of appliances.

According to him, the operation of a TV or a microwave may have a different "due date" as compared to that of an electric fan.

Mutual coordination

Alcartado said that he conducted an inspection before the dormitory was opened for occupants this year. The electrical system and the condition of the appliances have been checked.

See **FIRE** / page 2



DLSU-D conquers Mt. Kinabalu. Find out in the Sports section, page 18. Photo by Gerard Natividad



Then and now. The Ayuntamiento of the Spanish era (above) serves as the inspiration for the new Administration Building (perspective below).
 Photos by **Jasmyn Sade** and **Aubrey Farillon**

USC sets seven focal agenda

By **Jecoup Asombrado**
 with reports from **Patricia Cruz**

If last year's University Student Council (USC) had a five point agenda, this year's council added two more.

USC President Karla Rebosura enumerated USC's seven areas of concentration namely Transparency, Student Interest, Student Activities, Student Empowerment, Community Service, National and Social Awareness, and Financial Assistance.

Rebosura said USC aims for transparency through the newsletters they will issue. The newsletters will contain monthly financial statements in order for the community to trace how USC handles its fund.

The new council will conduct student consultations and student polls to get the pulse of the students regarding certain issues. The long-running "Need Help" project, which assists freshmen in adjusting in DLSU-D, was continued.

Rebosura furthered that the council plans to conduct major activities like university-wide competitions with an objective to maximize student participation. She also said they are planning to col-

laborate with other De La Salle schools such as DLS-HSC and DLS-Lipa in organizing programs and activities to promote unity among the sister schools.

One of the main targets of this year's USC is to catch the attention of every Lasallian to participate in their programs and to encourage them to "come out of their shells." The council plans to conduct programs such as the Anti-Passivity Campaign to instill awareness among the students.

"Hindi lang 'yung mga student leaders 'yung dapat na i-empower, dapat every single Lasallian [is] empowered.... mas maganda kung labat ng students [ay] aware, labat ng students, nagpa-participate," Rebosura said.

The USC president added that they will team up with the Lasallian Community Development Center in their outreach programs. USC aims to get students who are not actively participating in extra curricular activities to volunteer in the said programs.

Part of their national and social awareness agenda is to instill environmental discipline among the students. Rebosura said that the Uni-

versity's environmental projects such the Clean As You Go (CLAYGO) signs and the waste segregation are not being observed by the community. With this, the council plans to help intensify environmental awareness by conducting a cleanliness drive.

Rebosura added that they will also inculcate political awareness through information dissemination programs. In line with the upcoming National Elections in 2007, USC's political awareness project will focus on how important it is to participate in the elections.

USC will also continue its legacy of providing financial assistance to deserving students. For this semester, the number of USC scholarship grantees increased to 16 from last semester's 13. Three students were granted full scholarship while eight students availed 100% tuition discount and the remaining five were given 50% tuition discount.

Aside from scholarships, students could also avail of USC's student loans which are available every preliminary and midterm examinations. Student organizations could also apply for sponsorships from USC.

CAD faculty appointed SPO head

By **Patricia Cruz**

From her previous Communication Arts Department (CAD) office, Ms. Brenda Martinez now has a new "home" as the newly appointed In Charge of the Student Publications Office (SPO).

Martinez, who assumed office on June 2, said that under her leadership, the objectives of the SPO will be the same as before.

This year, one of the main concerns of the office is the completion of the SPO guidelines, and she is optimistic that it will be finished within the first semester. She plans to consult the

different parties involved such as the student journalists and administrators, to reach an agreement on the matter.

"I want to know what made the students apprehensive about the guidelines...Ako, personally, rine-review ko 'yung guidelines... Gusto ko siyang tingnan sa iba't ibang perspective...maybe from those standpoints I can help come up with a set of guidelines that would be more agreeable to all parties," she said.

Aside from continuing the series of seminars that SPO organized last year, Martinez is planning to conduct a study on the performance of the different stu-

dent publications. The research will delve into the assessment and perception of the students on the different publications. SPO plans to collaborate with the HERALDO FILIPINO for this endeavor.

SPO is also planning to create a profile of the different student publications in the University. Information regarding the publications are to be filed to serve as reference for those who wish to inquire or are interested in the said publications.

Martinez is positive that everything will run smoothly this year. "I think this time around we can work things out *talaga*," she said.



New faces. SPO In Charge Brenda Martinez (left) and SDAO Director Gerardo Sergio III (right).

Photo by **Jonas Sergio** and **Mark Sherwin Maestro**

REACT

Last semester, the students bade goodbye to class cards as the Office of the Registrar implemented the Individual Reports of Grade Distribution system. The HERALDO FILIPINO asked students and faculty regarding their feedback on the change.

Mas convenient pero sana mas maganda sana 'yung quality of paper na paglalagyan ng grades.
 —Anonymous, BCS 3-1

Hindi ko gusto kasi 'nung nagkaroon ng correction sa isang grade ko. Hassle 'yung process ng pagko-correct nito, hindi katulad dati, mas mabilis kasi direkt sa professor.
 —Janelyn Aguinaldo, JOU 3-1

It's about time that we do away with class cards because most universities do not use it anymore and it's more convenient to us.

—Ma. Virginia Aguilar, Faculty (Behavioral Sciences Department)

Advantage siya kasi hindi na masyadong marami dadalhin, disadvantage nga lang 'yung kung may problem mo dun sa grade mo sa prof, kasi hindi personal [yung appeal mo].

Usually, 'pag may reklamo ka, hindi mo na siya mai-voice out doon sa prof, although mabilisan [ang pagkuha ng grades].

—DK Alagos, BSE 4-1



Illustration by **Kenneth Marimon**

SDAO prioritizes "quality over quantity"

By **Patricia Cruz**

Quality over quantity of student projects and activities.

This is the objective of the newly appointed Student Development and Activities Office (SDAO) director, Mr. Gerardo Sergio III.

According to Sergio, there are no major changes coming from his office, and he plans to continue the projects started by its former director, Mr. Ritchie Bongcaron.

This year, Sergio will focus on quality projects from the student leaders. They plan to create an expense-impact ratio, wherein they will find out if the different projects' expenses have summated the impact on the students. They particularly want to emphasize projects that generated large expens-

es and yet created little impact on the community.

"Ang pag-serve sa mga students, it's a passion, a ministry...it's more on servant leadership...hindi sila [dapat] maging kontento sa 'President ako,' or 'Ito 'yung posisyon ko.' 'Yung legacy na iiwan nila, 'yun 'yung pinakahamon ko sa kanila. Ano 'yung legacy na iiwan mo, hanggang grumadweyt ka sa La Salle, ano 'yung pinakamalaking impact or malaking ipapamana mo sa studentry?'" Sergio said.

Sergio is a former Lasallian Community Development Center faculty, particularly of Civic Welfare Training Service. He became a Reserve Officers Training Corps coordinator from 2003 to 2005 before assuming the position of Assistant Director for Student Activities last year.

Enrolment statistics

1st Semester, School Year 2006-2007

College	Number of Enrolees SY 06-07
College of Business Administration	3,108
College of Engineering and Technology	2,214
College of Liberal Arts	1,937
College of Science	1,759
College of International Hospitality Management	1,360
College of Education	506
College of Law Enforcement and Public Safety	289
Graduate School of Education, Arts, and Sciences	302
Graduate School of Business	166
Total	11,641

	SY 2005-2006, First Semester	SY 2006-2007, Second Semester	SY 2006-2007, First Semester
Undergraduate Programs	11,186	10,359	11,173
Graduate Programs	524	478	468
Grand Total	11,710	10,837	11,641

	SY 2005-2006 First Semester	SY 2006-2007 First Semester
Male	5,546	5,644
Female	6,164	5,997

Source: Registrar's Office

FIRE / from page 1

At 2:30 a.m. on June 14, however, Eduardo Montes, a security guard in the dormitory went to the rescue of Brigitte Punzalan, Jasmine Marie Abcil, Aya Kristina Salva, and Sylle Ann Leabres after a cloud of smoke was seen coming out from their room. None of them got hurt. According to Roda, damages include a burnt bed, a study table, and a plastic chair.

Roda and his team inspected the panel board and the fire alarms that were placed in the dormitory's hallways. From this, he offered that plans to install fire alarms with louder volumes are in order.

However, Pontanilla said, "The fire protection system of the dorm is at par with the design and standard requirements of the Department of Interior and Local

Government and the Dasmariñas fire department, from its enunciator, fire hose, smoke detectors, etc."

Still, Alcartado said that the best way to prevent another fire is to foster mutual coordination among the dorm occupants and the administration.

Occupants should observe the restrictions set by the dormitory regarding the kinds of appliances that they use in their respective rooms. He conducted a check-up to ensure that these appliances which are considered susceptible to fire such as rice cookers, extension cords, and flat irons have been taken out of the dormitory.

He added that he has disseminated among the occupants, information on fire prevention measures during the dormitory orientation. They will also spearhead seminars on crisis management.

Laissez Faire Fare Hike

o si Fairy Godmother

5th CREATIVE WRITING SEMINAR WORKSHOP

August 10 - CET Exhibition Hall & Audio-Visual Room
 August 11 - Bulwagang Jose Basa & Feliciano Cabuco Discussion Room (AM)
 Luis Aguado & Eugenio Cabezas viewing Rooms (PM)

CSO welcomes four new orgs

By Jecoup Asombrado

Bible readers, student assistants, and football and martial arts enthusiasts join the roster of student organizations recognized by the Council of Student Organizations (CSO).

Four interest organizations passed the screening set by the CSO, increasing the total number of Recognized Student Organizations (RSO) from 26 to 30. The newly qualified student organizations are the Bible Reader's Society, Circle of Student Assistants, Football Club, and Union of Martial Arts Club.

The Bible Reader's Society aims to promote the value of reading the Bible to the Lasallians. The organization is headed by AB Communication student Ram Tee.

On the other hand, the Circle of Student Assistants, headed by Bachelor of Secondary Education junior Mary Grace Belmonte, is a group catering to SPREAD grantees. The group aims to help student assistants cope with the demands of being a scholar while maintaining good academic performance.

The newly formed Football Club is led by Marketing and Advertising Management junior Kenneth Acuña. The club's objective is to gather all Lasallians interested in the sport and produce a team that will compete in football competitions outside the campus. (See **New football club at DLSU-D** on page 16.)

Meanwhile, the Union of Martial Arts Club is an organization for students who are interested in the different forms of martial arts like karate and judo. The club's president is Terence Calimpon, a fourth-year Mechanical Engineering student.

The accreditation of the new organizations was based on their constitution, objectives, and mission-vision, and on how they defended these in the panel interview conducted by CSO with representatives from the Student Development and Activities Office and the

DLSU-D admission scope goes beyond RP

By Purple Chrystyl Romero

To the second batch of Filipino Lasallians from the Middle East, welcome home.

The establishment of the Satellite Testing Center Program in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Saudi Arabia, under the headship of Student Admissions Office (SAO) Director Juanito Cabanias, sees its fruits multiply as enrollees from the said countries reach 52 since its initial operation in October 2004. Most of the enrollees took up Engineering, Architecture, Nursing, Accounting, and Information Technology courses.

The Satellite Testing Center Program is a first of its kind in De La Salle Philippines, Inc. Cabanias developed it to help Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) access Lasallian education for their children. Under this program, children of OFWs could take the De La Salle University-Dasmariñas entrance exam for a \$100 fee at different testing centers in Jeddah, Abu Dhabi, and Riyadh. Results are communicated to the principals of the applicants' respective schools via e-mail.

Those who plan to pursue their studies in DLSU-D could secure their slots by having their relatives in the Philippines submit their certificate of Good Conduct, report cards, and pictures to the Registrar's Office.

However, even with the lack of some of these requirements such as the report card or the Good Conduct certificate, prospective enrollees still

be granted slots as long as they could provide a certification of their secondary education abroad.

"I fought for it"

As the newly appointed SAO director in 2004, Cabanias discovered that most of the DLSU-D enrollees came from the CALABARZON area. Thus, he planned the development of satellite testing centers overseas to "extend community service." The University of Santo Tomas and the University of the Philippines formulated this program back in 1997.

The SAO director said that the Operations and Academic Council was at first hesitant to approve this proposal for it would entail a significant amount of money, which would include the travel expenses of Cabanias to the Middle East. He said that he just "fought for it," and now, this plan already operates with its own trust fund, consisting of the net after Cabanias' present travel expenses were subtracted from the total payment of the applicants.

According to him, it is the prestige of being the "center for culture and arts," the round-the-clock security in the dormitories, and that of having a school uniform, which encourage OFWs to enrol their children at DLSU-D.

In 2004, this program generated 32 enrollees. The numbers have since grown to 52, and SAO is now projecting its first 100 enrollees for school year 2007-2008. Cabanias fur-

thered that plans for putting up similar testing centers in California and Italy are underway.

Bestsellers

This 52 is part of the 2,862 first year students listed in the enrolment statistics of the Registrar's office as of June 17, a number that has yet to reach the 2,880 stan-

dard annual rate of enrollees. Based on the same report, the College of Business Administration

has the highest number of freshmen enrolled with 772, while the College of Law

Enforcement has the lowest number of first-year students with 42.

According to Cabanias, the slots under the College of International and Hospitality Management, with 346 freshmen, were taken the fastest due to its "best-selling courses" of BS Hotel & Restaurant Management and BS Tourism Management.

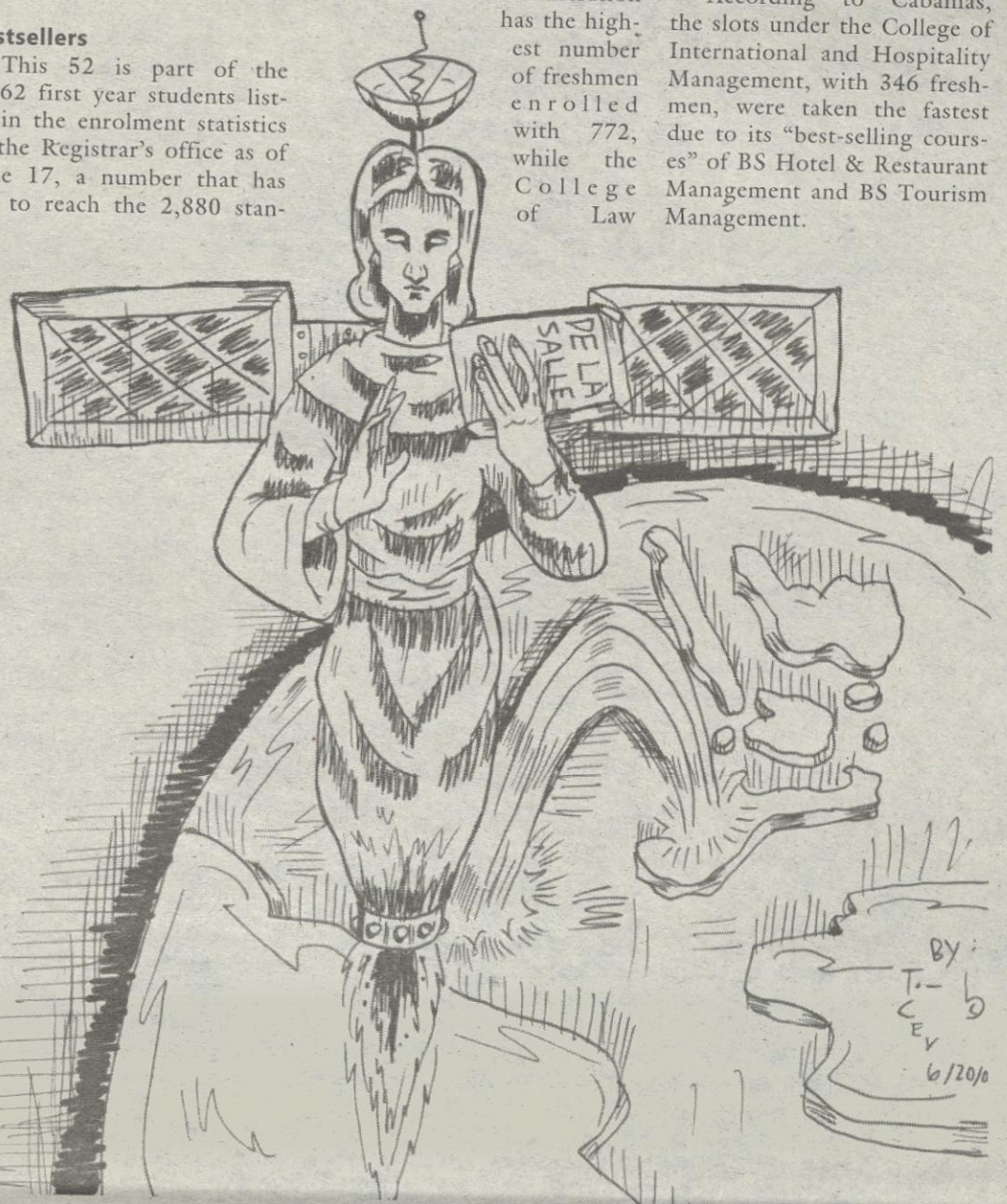


Illustration by Vicbert Maceda

University Student Council.

The four new organizations will be put under probationary status and in order to sustain their accreditation, the organizations should each conduct at least three major and two minor activities, and one each for outreach and spiritual wellness programs every semester.

The officers and members of RSOs are also required to

be on duty at the CSO office for a minimum of 36 hours for the president. The rest of the officers and members of an RSO should also accumulate a combined 36 duty hours.

"*Hindi naman mahirap mag-comply sa mga requirements kung gusto niyo talaga 'yung ginagawa niyo...I-set niyo lang 'yung mind niyo sa one goal—student service,*" CSO

Secretary Michelle Angela Chung said.

The CSO is the mother organization of RSOs of DLSU-D. Its function is to monitor all the activities of its member organizations. John Patrick Gabuya, a fifth-year Electronics and Communications Engineering student, serves as the CSO president while the CSO adviser is Ethel Protomartir.

INFO ACCOUNT

The real deal on Br. Mawel Pajarillo

Br. Manuel Rosales Pajarillo FSC, the seventh president of De La Salle University-Dasmariñas and De La Salle-Health Sciences Campus, graduated with a BS in Biology from De La Salle University and obtained both his Masters in Theology and Doctorate in Sacred Theology from Katholieke Universiteit Leuven in Belgium.

A teacher, a writer, and an academician, Br. Manuel "Mawel" R. Pajarillo FSC is blessed with the gift of leadership and commitment that he has always shown through the various positions designated to him. Before assuming the presidency, Br. Mawel was also chair/director of various national and religious committees.

Br. Mawel has also formally studied Spanish, French, German, and Dutch. Aside from his active involvement in the academe, Br. Mawel's concerns center on environmental conservation, justice and peace issues.

Br. Mawel was born to Abelardo Recto Pajarillo, a lawyer, and Teresita Capistrano Rosales, a teacher, on May 5, 1960, in Malate, Manila.

Br. Mawel was formally installed as the DLSU-D and DLS-HSC president on June 28 at Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Chapel, Museum Complex, DLSU-D. **Institutional Communications Office**



Photo by Mark Sherwin Maestro

ONE / from page 1

According to the One La Salle primer, the NMC will also aid schools conduct fundraising activities collectively both in the country and abroad. The fund that will be collected will be used for scholarship grants and other social development projects.

Gruenberg stated that with DLSP, DLSU-D will experience a taste of independence. "In the past, we would follow the same system policies but now we have become a little bit more autonomous because we are no longer governed by system policies. Each school may have its own set of policies," she explained.

The old DLSU System was only composed of eight institutions: DLSU-Manila, DLS-Araneta University, DLS-Canlubang, DLS-College of St. Benilde (DLS-CSB), DLS-Professionals Schools Incorporated, DLS-Santiago Zobel School, DLS-Health Sciences Campus (DLS-HSC) and DLSU-D, all under one president.

Now, aside from the eight system schools, also included under

DLSP are the ten district schools owned by the La Salle Brothers, namely: La Salle Greenhills, De La Salle Lipa, La Salle College-Antipolo, University of St. La Salle, Saint Joseph School-La Salle, Immaculate Conception College-La Salle, John Bosco College, La Salle Academy-Iligan, Andres Soriano Memorial College and the newly founded Jaime Hilario Integrated School-La Salle located at Bagac, Bataan.

Gruenberg added that another difference about DLSP is that there will be La Salle Brothers who will act as President of either one school or a cluster of schools. Br. Manuel Pajarillo FSC was appointed President of DLSU-D, DLS-HSC, and DLS-Lipa while Br. Armin is the President for DLS-Professional Schools, DLS-Santiago Zobel, and DLSU-Manila.

The rest of the Presidents are Br. Rafael Donato FSC for DLS-Araneta University, Br. Ricardo Laguda FSC for DLS-Canlubang, Br. Edmundo Fernandez FSC for DLS-CSB, Br. Narciso Erguiza FSC for Immaculate Conception College-La Salle, Br. Dennis Magbanua

FSC for La Salle Academy, Br. Augustine Boquer FSC for University of St. La Salle, Br. Felipe Belleza FSC for La Salle Green Hills, and Br. Dante Amisola FSC for La Salle College Antipolo.

Introducing De La Salle South

Gruenberg said that one of the outcomes of the establishment of DLSP is the formation of De La Salle South. De La Salle South is the clustering of De La Salle schools located in the Southern Tagalog Region. DLSU-D, DLS-HSC, DLS-Canlubang, and DLS-Lipa are the members of this cluster.

The EVP said that the purpose of putting these academic institutions together is for assistance in managing their respective schools. "Like, instead of a school in [De] La Salle South offering a seminar exclusively for its faculty, it can invite the other schools in the South to participate and share expenses," Gruenberg explained.

Gruenberg said that the administrators of different schools included in the De La Salle South group have already convened and formed

committees in areas like academics, planning, and research. Vice President for Academics and Research Dr. Veronidia De Leon and Vice President for Development and Alumni Affairs Dr. Myrna Ramos are part of the committee.

The committees have regular meetings wherein the administrators of the different schools share practices, handbooks, concerns, and other materials that may help in managing their respective schools. The committee members evaluate the materials shared to identify what areas their school needs to improve on. They also discuss possible teamups in different fields like academics and research, purchasing, information technology, and human resource.

Gruenberg believes that what is working very well in De La Salle South and DLSP is the fostering of synergy and cooperation among the schools.

"So now we talk, *noon kasi parang kanya-kanya na lang, we share a lot of things, and we meet regularly, to update each other on the exciting things that are happening in each of our campuses,*" she said.

NEWS BITS

BPI accepts school fees

First, it was Security Bank, and now DLSU-D has tied up with the Bank of the Philippine Islands (BPI) to provide more options for paying school fees.

Both BPI depositors and non-depositors could avail of the new payment system. Depositors can simply go to the BPI branch of their account and enrol the student name and student ID number via the check-free payment facility.

Check-free payment facility allows payment through BPI Express Phone, Express Online, or ATM. Then, depositors should proceed to Counter 16 of the Administration Building for their official receipts.

Non-depositors, on the other hand, could avail of the service through the over-the-

counter payment system. In this system, the student/parent should go to any BPI branch and get a deposit/payment slip.

The student/parent should write 8351-0009-97 for the account number and DLSU-Dasmariñas for the merchant's name. The student's name and ID number should be indicated as reference number. A P15.00 transaction fee is required.

After filling out the necessary information the student/parent should proceed to the bank teller for payment and for the issuance of the machine-validated copy of the deposit slip. The student/parent must also present the validated slip to Counter 16 to get the official receipt.

Jecoup Asombrado

CLA stude flies to Korea

Goodbye DLSU-D, *Annyeong Korea!*

Before, Development Studies student Charybel Magbuo only sees Korea through the television programs. Now, she herself will experience the Korean lifestyle and education as she qualified to study in Korea through a scholarship grant.

The Institutional Communications Office *News-ette* reported that Magbuo, DLSU-D's first international exchange student, received a one year scholarship grant to study at Daejeon Univer-

sity, Korea. Her scholarship is inclusive of a monthly living allowance; tuition and school fees; and room, board, and travel expenses. Magbuo left for Korea on March 21, 2006.

Under the scholarship, Magbuo could take any English instructed course that Daejeon University offers. The scholarship grant came from the International College Student Exchange Program between the Republic of Korea and the ASEAN University Network.

Jecoup Asombrado

CLE posts 60% passing rate

The College of Law Enforcement and Public Safety (CLE) marked a 60 per cent passing rate for the Criminologist Licensure Examination held in May, down by 25 per cent from last year's 85 per cent. However, this performance is higher compared to the national rating of 30 per cent.

Nine out of 15 examinees from DLSU-D passed the li-

censure examinations, namely: Ronelo Abas, Andre Abesamis, Victor Calingasan, Jonald Magpuri, Ryan John Osis, Gian Warner Robles, Rangelo Saclolo, Jose Salamante Jr., and Rommel Taal.

A total of 3,720 examinees took the board examinations and 1,130 passed. The next licensure examination is scheduled on October.

Jecoup Asombrado

DEATH IS DEAD



Illustration by Kenneth Marimon

By German John Sipin

From the point of view of some legislators, it is an unconstitutional practice. For the human rights advocates, it is inhumane. For the religious, it is very immoral. To the prosecuted, it is simply the end. To the victims of heinous crimes, it is justice well served. The subject in question: capital punishment, better known as the death penalty.

It was a Sunday like no other when the nation was caught unaware by President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo's Easter message announcing, "...our policy to commute the death penalty to life imprisonment." The Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) and a host of human rights groups openly welcomed the President's move to abolish the death penalty while anti-crime groups and the families of victims of heinous crimes suddenly broke in an outburst arguing that the move will encourage more injustices in the country.

Political groups and NGO's alike were skeptical about Arroyo's sincerity in declaring the commutation of the death sentences of 1,205 convicts to life imprisonment. They believed that the President's decision was nothing more than a political gesture to win support from the CBCP on the issue of Constitutional Amendment.

History: capital punishment in the Philippines

Capital punishments predate recorded history in the Philippines. Early Spanish conquistadores brought into the archipelago the European medieval penal system including the practice of criminal execution.

Different forms of execution such as burning, decapitation, drowning, flaying, garrote, hanging, shooting, and stabbing were often legally sanctioned and were also practiced by church authorities particularly against heretics.

The Spanish introduced the *Codigo Penal* of 1848 which sanctioned capital punishment as the main body of law for the colony. During the years between 1840 and 1875, 46 convicts were recorded to have been executed by Spanish authorities.

At the start of their occupation, the Americans adapted the *Codigo Penal* of 1848 and was later revised and incorporated into the Revised Penal Code of 1932. Under this code, capital crimes such as treason, piracy, parricide, murder, kidnapping, rape, and robbery with homicide are punishable with death.

Shortly after the outbreak of World War II, espionage was added to the list of capital crimes punishable by death under Commonwealth Act 616.

Republic Act 1700, known

as the Anti-Subversion Law, was enforced after World War II to deter the emergence of communist political groups such as the HUKBALAHAP and the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP). Under RA 1700, subversion is punishable by death but no executions were made for the convicted communist leaders.

During the Marcos regime, crimes such as hijacking (RA 6235); possession, use, or sale of dangerous drugs (RA 6425); and kidnapping (RA 6539) were added to the list of capital crimes punishable by death. Additional crimes under the same punishment were mandated by several presidential decrees including: piracy and highway robbery (PD 532), cattle rustling (PD 533), illegal fishing (PD 1058), embezzlement and estafa (PD 1689), arson (PD 1744), illegal possession and use of unlicensed firearms (PD 1811), subversion (PD 1834), and manufacture of firearms, explosives etc. (PD 1835).

A considerable number of death sentences were handed down by military tribunals which were part of the judiciary system during the martial law era.

After the Marcos regime, the 1987 constitution abolished capital punishment, making the Philippines the first Asian country to do so. Then President Cory Aquino announced that all death sentences would be commuted to *reclusion perpetua*.

Despite doubts about the constitutionality of capital punishment, former President Ramos, the Senate, and the Congress signed RA 7659 on December 1993 aiming to restore capital punishment in the country. In 1996, Ramos signed RA 8177 into law designating lethal injection as the method of executing death convicts.

It was under former President Estrada's term that the first execution took place since the Marcos era. In 1999, Leo Echegaray was executed through lethal injection for repeatedly raping his 10-year-old stepdaughter. Because of the political pressure from the Catholic Church and liberal groups, President Estrada announced the suspension of executions on March 2000, in observance of the Christian jubilee year.

In 2001, with continued military clashes with insurgents and constant terrorist threats, President Arroyo lifted the moratorium that ex-President Estrada set earlier. In 2006, coinciding with Easter, President Arroyo announced that all death sentences would be commuted to life imprisonment.

In an online article, Santos Lamban, secretary general of the Philippine Alliance of Human Rights Advocates (PAHRA) wrote that, "The Philippines was the first Asian

country that abolished the death penalty in 1987. But six years after it has reimposed the death penalty, the Philippines has overtaken its Asian neighbors and has the most number of death convicts.

Pros and cons

Opponents of capital punishment are mainly composed of the Church, human rights advocates, pro-life groups, and liberals who denounce capital punishment as unconstitutional.

The Catholic Church has long opposed the implementation of capital punishments regardless of the gravity of the crime. In an online news article, Bishop Pedro Arigo, chairman of the CBCP Episcopal Commission of the Prison Pastoral Care (ECPCC), said, "Our commission has been advocating for the abolition of the death penalty and we want the government to abrogate it."

The ECPCC said the abolition of the capital punishment "...is a practical recognition of the dignity of every human being created into the image and likeness of God."

"We believe that the lawbreakers must be given a chance to repent, change their lives, their attitudes, and truly atone for their actions," Bishop Arigo added.

The CBCP and other Catholic groups are urging the government and Christians to let "restorative justice" work and abandon "retributive justice" in respect of human dignity and the fundamentals of life.

On a legal perspective, sentencing death to lawbreakers is unconstitutional according to Supreme Court Chief Justice Artemio Panganiban. In a news article at *Manila Standard Today*, dated April 26, 2006, Panganiban was quoted, "The Death Penalty Law as written is unconstitutional because the 1987 Constitution says that the Death Penalty is abolished."

Article III (Bill of Rights), Section 19 of the Constitution clearly defines that "...Neither shall death penalty be imposed, unless, for compelling reasons involving heinous crimes, the Congress hereafter provides for it. Any death penalty already imposed shall be reduced to *reclusion perpetua*..."

Presidential Spokesperson Ignacio Bunye couldn't agree more with Chief Justice Panganiban's decision saying in an official statement: "We welcome the Chief Justice's personal interpretation of the death penalty law and take this as another boost to the repeal of the law on capital punishment," Bunye said.

However, not all statesmen share the same view as Chief Justice Panganiban does. In a Senate press conference, Senate President Franklin Drilon said, "That is a personal opinion of the Chief Justice. We

would like to think that it is the Supreme Court which will ultimately rule on this if brought squarely before it."

In another perspective, human rights groups such as the PAHRA are skeptical about the judicial system's ability to review death penalty cases. Lamban wrote in an online article "One of the reasons as to why human rights groups oppose the death penalty is because of the weaknesses and imperfections of the Philippine justice system. This is very much evident in the review of death penalty cases made by the Supreme Court from 1995 to 1999. Two out of every three death sentences handed down by the local courts were found to be erroneous by the Supreme Court."

Lamban also said, "The Philippine justice system is so imperfect that it is often tipped against the poor and marginalized sectors of society. Because they are poor, majority of the death convicts could not even afford to hire private lawyers so that in most cases conviction is most likely to occur."

The main proponents in favor of capital punishment are the various anti-crime groups and the victims of heinous crimes themselves.

Anti-crime groups such as the Volunteers Against Crime and Corruption (VACC) plan to "exhaust" every legitimate action to lobby against the abolition of death penalty. VACC founding chairman Dante Jimenez warned the President that her move to lobby for the abolition of death penalty might leave the families of the victims of heinous crimes feeling deprived of justice.

Jimenez also fears that vigilante groups would proliferate after the President's decision to repeal capital punishment.

Even some of her political allies seem not to like the President's decision. Her congressional ally, Cebu Representative Antonio Cuenco, warned about the possible negative implications in commuting all death sentences to life terms.

Being the vice chairman of the Oversight Committee on Dangerous Drug, Cuenco was concerned that the commutation might provoke foreign drug syndicates to establish more shabu laboratories and strengthen the local illegal drugs network. He warned that an increase in illegal drug distribution will also exponentially increase incidents of crime and violence.

Like Jimenez, Cuenco was also concerned that those who were victimized by terrible crimes might resort to enforcing the law themselves, on other words, vigilantism.

Besides the various anti-crime groups that were unnerved by President Arroyo's decision, the Filipino-Chinese community was also left dismayed especially since there is

a resurgence of kidnapping. "They're not only dismayed, they're also shocked by that announcement. It's the height of insensitivity and callousness," said Teresita Ang-See, a leader of the anti-crime Movement for Restoration of Peace and Order, in an interview with ABS-CBN.

Political maneuver?

Opposition statesmen and militant groups are cynical about the sincerity of President Arroyo's decision since the move coincides with the Church's opposition to the government-backed signature campaign that would amend the constitution through a people's initiative. Also, the commutation came after European ambassadors revived their call to abolish death penalty.

In an interview with *Manila Bulletin*, a militant human rights group called *Karapatan* criticized the President, saying the move was not sincere and was only done to appease the Catholic bishops who have always campaigned against capital punishment.

House Minority Leader Francis Escudero also believes that the move was politically motivated. He believes that President Arroyo only wanted to woo CBCP and pro-life politicians.

The Palace denies any allegations that the commutation of all death sentences to life imprisonment was politically motivated. Presidential Adviser for Political Affairs Gabriel Claudio said, "There are no political motives; either way there are bound to be disappointments," adding that President Arroyo has been "consistent about her respect and advocacy for human life."

Whether the move was politically motivated or not, the fate of the death row inmates has already been sealed last June 24, as President Arroyo formally signed the act abolishing death penalty. Wasting no time, the signing coincided with her trip to the Vatican, where she proudly presented the document as one of her gifts to Pope Benedict XVI, who in turn gave his approval to the delighted chief executive.

PGMA stressed that even though the capital punishment has been abolished, the campaign against crime is far from over. "We shall continue to devote the increasing weight of our resources to the prevention and control of serious crimes, rather than take the lives of those who commit them," she said in an article published in the *Philippine Daily Inquirer*. She further calls on "...the entire criminal justice system, law enforcers, prosecutors, jailers, judges and whole community to take stock of the responsibility of sharpening law and justice for all."

Kampusapusan

Nagbasa ako kanina ng diyaryo, aba, nakalagay doon na may nanalo na 'raw sa ika-sampung Big Shaider. Parang kahapon lang 'yon nagsimula ah! Nakakagulat. Ang bilis. Walastik! Napanood ko rin sa telebisyon, kriminal na daw mismo ang nagsusuplong sa sarili nila. Kakaiba di'ba? Pantastik! Tapos, tumawag ang boss ko, may balita daw sa U.S. at kailangang may maipadalang reporter. Ako na lamang daw. Nakakamangha. Kasi, hindi naman ako reporter.

Mababaliw na 'ata ako sa lahat ng pagbabago sa mundo. Pero bakit ganoon, mga estudyante ng DLSU-D'y puro pa rin reklamo? Hindi pa rin nawawala ang hinaing ukol sa propesor na pilyo, sa taga-Admin na tila may *menopause*, at sa patakarang nagkakaloko-loko. Aba! Parang naghahamon pa rin at gustong makatikim...ng isa na namang bersiyon ng Kampusap na walang tulak-kabigin!

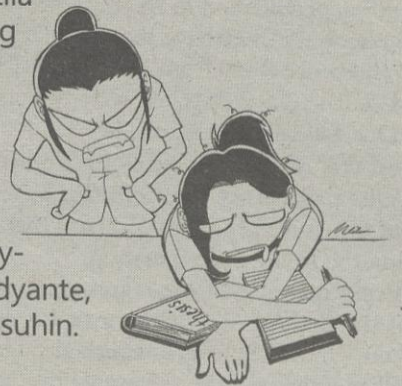
Oo nga't bagong semestre na. *Let's move on*, 'ika nga. Pero may ilang paksang 'di pwedeng mabaliwala. Kaya't tayo'y magbabalik tanaw, at sumilip sa mga reklamong noong nagdaang semestre pa sa amin ay napadpad.

Gaya ng *grade slip* na tila raw tinipid. Ang papel ay manipis at madaling mangata ng ipis. Ilang estudyante at maging magulang daw nila, dito'y hindi na-*please*. Papel daw ay hindi maganda at madali pang gayahin, kaya ang tanong tuloy nila, "Ito ba ang resulta ng *tuition increase*?"



Isa pa ring reklamo na sa huling edisyon ng Kampusap ay hindi nakahabol, ito naman ay sa isang taga-silid-aklatan patungkol. Isang babaeng *librarian* ay tila walang modo dahil sa pang-saway na salitang ginamit ay parang hindi galing sa isang Katoliko.

Isang araw kasi dala ng sobrang pagod, ang estudyanteng ito ay sa isang sulok nakatulong. At nang mamataan, hayun at niyugyog ang kaniyang likuran ni Miss Librarian. Nang hindi pa rin magising, nagsalita na ang *Miss*, ang estudyante'y tinawag niyang 'bruha' ng makailang ulit. O 'di ba astig, sadyang malufheet! *Good thing* wala sa *mood* si estudyante, *Miss* pasalamat ka at may *thesis* pa siyang aasikasuhin.



'Pag sinabing tag-init, 'di hamak na talagang mainit. Kaya't mas komportableng magsuot ng mga damit na hindi *long-sleeves*, pantalon na hindi masyadong hapit, at sa *rubber* o *closed shoes* ay magpaalam saglit.

Ito na marahil ang dahilan kung bakit ang mga estudyante ay tila nakalimot na. Marami ang sumusuway sa *dress code* na inihanda. *Flip-flops*, *tube tops*, *sleeveless*, *razor backs*, or *pedal pushers* ba kamo? Iho, iha, bawal na bawal 'yan sa Unibersidad na ito.

Subalit, sa kabila ng patakarang ito, bakit may mga estudyante pa ring nakakalusot?

"Noong papasok na ako, hinuli ako ng D.O. dahil sa suot kong *pedal*. Masyado daw maiksi para na raw *shorts*. Eh di binigay ko 'yung I.D. ko, tapos nung naglalakad na ako, may nakita akong babaeng ang suot ay kasing-iksi nung akin, pero nasa kanya pa rin yung I.D. niya. Ibig sabihin, hindi siya nahuli ng D.O. Bakit ganun? Suwertihan na lang ba ito?"

Bakit nga ba ganoon, mga binibini, ginang at ginoo? Dapat ang batas ay sa lahat umeepekto. Siguro'y mas lakihan ninyo na lamang ang inyong mga mata at mas talasan ang panghusga, nang mabawasan na ang ganitong paulit-ulit na reklamo't kami'y sawa na.



Ikaw naman estudyante, bawal nga sabi eh! Kaya't hindi rin natin sila masisisi dahil as *students*, following the *University rules* is our *responsibility*.

Ito na, ito na, *we're on the hype* na. Here are the last two topics na lume-level-up pa.

"Nakakaasar ang *inconsistency* ng mga *professors* at *administrators* this *enrolment*. Paano ba naman sabi nung professor o adviser na pumipirma ng *add/drop form*, pwede raw kami mag-*over load* dahil 4th year na kami. Besides, some of our classmates have managed to add a subject, which made their total units 21, instead of 18.

"Pero *unfair* at walang kaayusan ang sistema nila dahil iba naman sinasabi ng mga taga-Admin. Sabi doon, bawal daw mag-*over load*, hanggang 18 units lang daw talaga. Kung gayon, bakit may ibang nakakuha ng 21 units? Sana pare-pareho kayo ng alam na *rule* para hindi estudyante ang naguguluhan. Bukod dun, ubod pa ng sungit 'yung babae. Nakakaasar!"

Bakit nga ba ang gulu-gulo? Bakit nga ba iba-iba? Hindi ba pwedeng magkaisa? Para sa kapangatagan ng bawat isa? Ay pasensya na, tila napadrampa pa, eh kasi naman bakit ba ganito, *Sir* at *Ma'am*? *Rule is rule*, di'ba? Kaya *stick to one* sana.



"Pinaglakad po kaming mga sagala ng La Salle sa ulan. Bumabagyo po nun, *take note*. Naka-*gown* at naka-*heels* kami tapos pinasugod kami sa labas, sa Gate 4, paikot sa *East Campus*. Bahala na po kung wala kang dalang payong. Mukha kaming basang sisiw lahat."

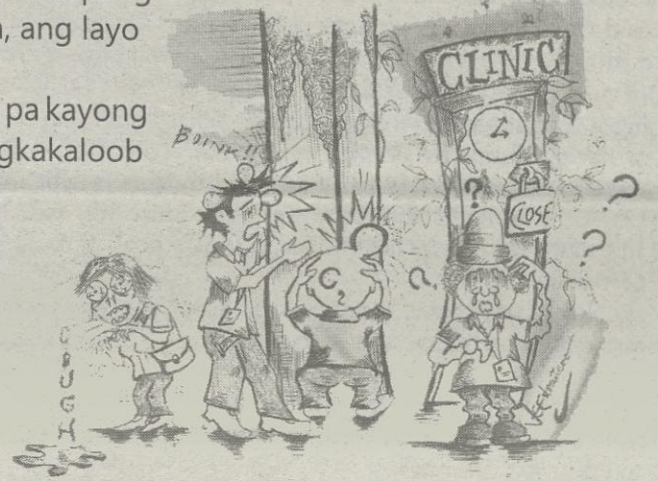
Ay-yay-yay...Kawawa naman sila, tila nalusaw ang kanilang ganda. Kunsabagay, maaaring ang panahon ay hindi nila namalayan, pero sana nagkaroon ng konsiderasyo't sila'y hindi na pinarampa nang matagalan. (Tatlong lumalagutok na palatak.) Hindi na nga sila nag-volunteer para sa nasabing event, isang *disaster* pa ang kanilang nakamit. Naku, ano ba 'yan, sana *next time* let's learn how to anticipate, and always keep in mind the *students' betterment*.



Ngayon naman tayo'y mapadpad sa isang klinika. Pero *guys* tanong lang, "What is its *significance* nga ba?" Hindi ba't ito'y itinatag para ang estudyanteng may lagnat, sugat, sipon, o sakit ng ulo'y malunasan? *But wait a minute*, bakit iba yata ang nakarating sa Kampusap-usapan?

"Around 3:10 p.m. sa isang *clinic*, humingi ako ng gamot dahil sa sakit ng ulo ko. Ngunit wala nang *nurse* sa nasabing *clinic* na iyon. Sa isa pang *clinic* na lamang daw ako kumuha ng gamot. Eh, ang layo nun, kaya tiniis ko na lang ang sakit ng ulo ko."

(Isang lumalagutok na palatak.) Aba'y tinawag pa kayong klinika, kung sa mga estudyante ay hindi maipagkakaloob ang lunas na pansamantala. Buti at sakit ng ulo lamang ang kanilang naranasan; At pa'no kung *emergency*, eh 'di si estudyante, kawawa naman? Kaya't mga *fellow students*, mabuti pa 'atang i-umpog na lamang ang sarili, kaysa humingi ng tulong sa klinikang tila walang silbi.



Next in our list ay reklamong makulit. Wala pa ring aksyon kahit ito'y nailabas na nang ilang ulit. Sa isang hapong mainit, isang tawag ang sa amiy dumating, "Hello, HERALDO FILIPINO po ba ito? Bakit ganoon dalawang *windows* lang sa *Accounting* ang bukas? Ang dami-daming tao. Aksyunan niyo 'yan."

Ang nakasagot po ng tawag ay sadyang namangha, nagulat, at nabigla. Ayy. Diyos ko, maghunos-dili ka, iho! Ang puso mo, oh! Matagal na nga itong inireklamo. Pero mga pare ko'y hindi rin namin maintindihan kung bakit wala pa ring kaukulang aksyon para dito. Kaya't 'pag *enrolment*, bring the following na lang siguro: *food*, *drinks*, at your *bimpo*.

Ang sunod na paksa ay matagal na ring idinadaing ng mga students.

Para sa kinauukulan, please naman, mga *over-head projector* na sira'y inyo nang ipagawa, o mag-*purchase* na ng bago kaya! Kasi naman sobrang *inconvenient* na tuwing *lecture*, ang OHP na inaasahan, hindi gagana sa gitna ng diskusyon at talastasan. Ilang *materials* tuloy na sa estudyante ay dapat na ipakita, pinapapasa na lang isa-isa, o kaya'y sa ibang kuwarto eh manghiram at mang-istorbo muna. Eh kamura naman, 'di ba?



Tayo'y huminga na nang malalim dahil tapos na ang isa na namang bersiyon ng Kampusap na lubhang malagim. Pero kung hindi magbabago ang dapat magbago, kami'y mananatili sa aming sulok. Nagkukubli. Nakikingig. Nagmamasid. Bwahahaha! Kontrabidang-kontrabida ang dating. Naka-leather jackets din kami at may suot na itim na salamin. Biro lang!

Ang totoo, ang hindi magbabago, eh 'di aming magiging suki!

So, who'll be next in the list? Oh well, let's just wait and see.

Para sa mga mensahe ng papuri, hinaing, o kung ano pa man, 'wag mahiyang dumulog (wow!) sa Kampusapusan. Maari. itong gawin sa pamamagitan ng:

Telepono: (046) 416-4531 loc. 3063
E-mail: heraldofilipino@yahoo.com
Opisina: GMH213

Dahil sa Kampusapusan, tatlo lang ang nakakaalam-kayo, kami, at ang sambayanan!

EDITORIAL

Info crisis

It's not surprising if majority of Lasallian students today are not fully aware about De La Salle Philippines, Inc. (DLSP), or how many schools are officially included in the System, or some may think that "One La Salle" is the new system's name; because in the first place, students—the focal point of academic institutions—were not consulted. And even when DLSP had already been implemented this school year, students still remain poorly informed.

As students, we deserve to be well informed on issues that affect us, most especially that the matter is as large as transforming the DLSU System into DLSP. Even if schools have their student leaders and student publications—who are mostly not well informed too—it is unacceptable that unless curiosity and questions arise, that would be the only time the concerned authority answers. The initiative must first and foremost come from them because they surely do not want Lasallian students to say "Ah... eh... ahmm" when others ask "What is One La Salle for? How does it differ from having a DLSU System?"

As for the students, it is important to not simply nod or fall to the big sea of passivity for if they do not ask or critically think about what is handed down to them, it might be too late to realize that they should have known the pros and cons of a matter. Sometimes, the concept of knowledge gap exists not just when two or more classes have different levels of information exposure but when people tend to be contented with what is right in front of them even if they have the capability to know beyond the surface and move away from reeking mediocrity.

The HERALDO FILIPINO had already published two articles about the One La Salle issue—one last school year and now, the headline of this issue. It would not have been the banner if only the students particularly the freshmen have a sufficient background about the matter; but we've learned that it was not even discussed during the freshmen orientation.

Every member of the community deserves to know beyond what the *One La Salle Primer* says, beyond the melodic lines that explain why DLSP was established: "Unified implementation of Lasallian mission...creative synergy...over-all quality of education..." This is because we are part of the *family*, we move for and involve ourselves in certain tangible operations and activities in the campus.

Now that we are "one," maybe our administrators, or whoever is concerned in the new system, can share with us more information about their plans or about the following matters that we missed prior the new system's implementation:

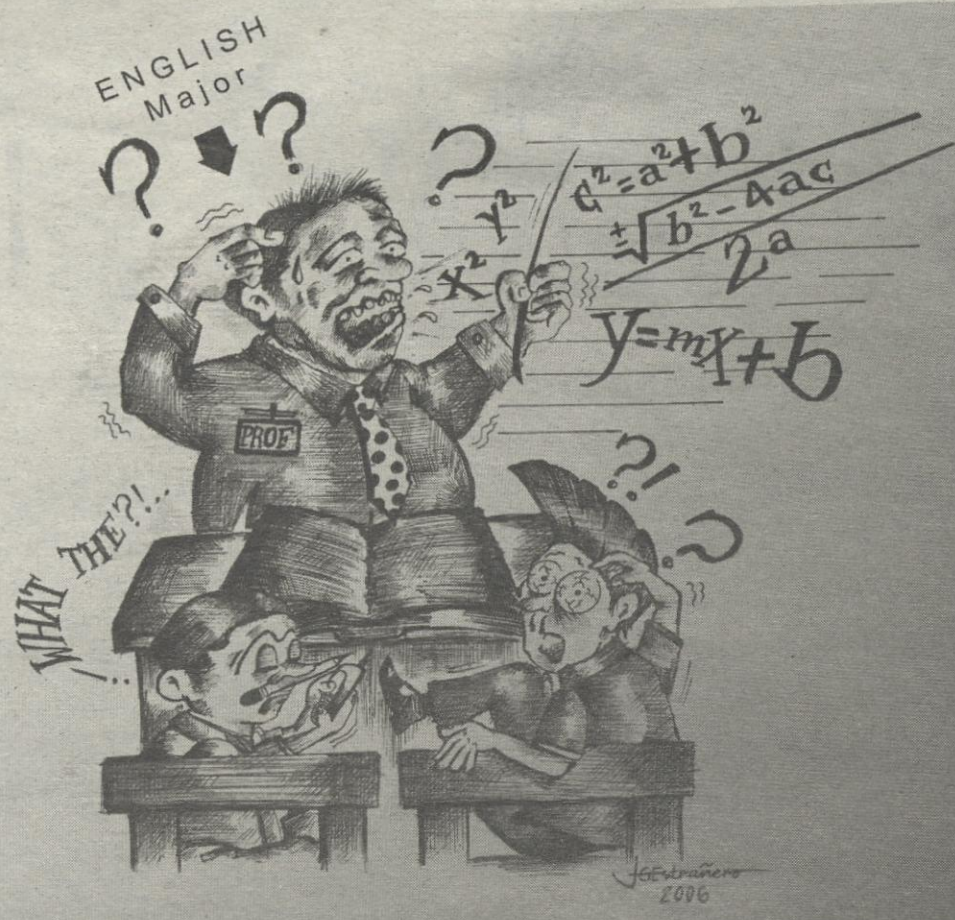
DLSU-D Executive Vice President Dr. Estrellita Gruenberg said that there are no system policies anymore and each school is now "a little bit autonomous," since it will have its own set of policies. But one of the advantages of being DLSP is having a centralized network of...what? What is the specific scope of having distinctive policies taking into account establishing a centralized network? What would the students benefit from it? Let them know so they may really maximize this new design and they might even help achieve DLSP's goals through active participation.

Now that we are "one," maybe Lasallian events would be easier for organizers; and if for example DLS Canlubang gets an award, maybe it would be credited to all the schools under DLSP. This move may ease the discrimination or gap among the schools. However, names are letters, titles that do not really mean and describe *character*.

Dr. Gruenberg said that there would be "some kind of helping among schools" particularly in the South (DLS-HSC, DLS-Lipa, and DLS-Canlubang) and that there are committees who "meet regularly so that they can share best practices...different handbooks...and then we improve according to the materials that are shared..." It can be understood that not all La Salle institutions offer the same quality of education. Some of our schools can be compared to community colleges that need more attention in terms of the quality of their students, faculty, and facilities. Then, it must be understood that each school has its own needs, and because of these needs, not everyone can completely catch up with what "over-all quality of Lasallian education" is about.

Being one as Lasallians is not a bad idea. It only becomes one when an identity or an individual conviction is harmed for the sake of "unity." On political advocacies, for example, once the brothers bring out a statement, it's perceived as the system's stand even if some of its members have other stand on issues. Being a part of an institution and being a citizen of this country are still two different things.

As for DLSU-D, we hope that we would not be too busy getting by with One La Salle for we have several issues to settle here at our own University.



Cardiology

Deofelyn C. Ocayo



DEHYDRATED NATION

Many words have been wasted and opportunities crashed like no force could ever rebuild them.

might fool us and to help those who are contented of being fooled by some showcasing of educational funds from the pathetic and long delayed national budget a week before the start of classes.

When you're already blessed with the opportunity to study, don't be lizards and cockroaches that simply walk in and out of the room. It seems that many of us have become bystanders or passive customers of a big circus, where the clown keeps on joking but is not welcome anymore, where corruption is like a dangerous carousel, and where gambling's price is "threateningly priceless."

Has everything become too fast for our eyes that we fell, but never really jumped, to a fading dream? Have we tried too hard to shout for another revolution to stop the ruthless deeds of the government? Have we become short-term heroes with short-term triumphs? Are we just pretending to be hopeful for this

country?

In this generation, many words have been wasted and opportunities crashed like no force could ever rebuild them. How many of us have talked about caring for Mother Nature, for youth empowerment, for socio-political problems, and for real education? Any student can write good essays about these topics. Some talk excellently about these issues like nobody can disagree with them. But still, most of us become contented with fancy litany of oh-my-beloved pledges but never really included them in our plans after we get our diplomas. We have the heart to be the children of our own dreams but not the children of our country.

The heart simply pumps and circulates blood and this is what grown-ups have learned. But sometimes, I'd like to be eaten by the traditional image and meaning of a heart, if going back to zero is the only way to "educate" the young. Maybe we have to feel our pulses again if it's just beating only for our selves. Maybe we have to study our heart if the Filipino blood is still circulating in it. Maybe we have to redefine what this "too cool" generation has now described as another unrewarding and mushy word for the country—love.

For violent but helpful reactions, email me here: manylthings_inside@yahoo.com.

There is something more behind the prominent changes in the syllabi of this University; a root why attendance is still compulsory; why gospel readings are eating our time in every class; why taking down notes is already a written rule; and why even the nodding and shaking of heads are graded for class participation. Ridiculous.

There is something more behind the stories of classroom shortage, insufficient facilities, inefficient educators, poor curricula, and low test scores of public and private schools.

When we talk about hell in our education system, we usually point our fingers to the government because obviously, they're not doing well with budget allocations and planning. But can we reverse the direction of our fingers? Thumbs up. Bang!

Philippine education is not dying. Our aim for real education is.

Education should not only be a dramatic story of people who struggle to get a diploma to find some job someday, help their families, and see their children narrating the same story someday.

I'm not disregarding Adam Smith but we are not robots to fully live in his world. In fact, a public school in a remote area which has no modern facilities like in other urban schools, got the highest scores for a certain national academic exam. One striking account is they have a Sat-

urday class to cope with lessons they couldn't finish on weekdays because they have to be dismissed early since their houses are distant from school. Their teachers are not paid for a Saturday class and even if it's optional for the students to attend, 75% of them still do. Why? With the help of their families, their school, and the local government, they are motivated to learn. No need for ridiculous policies. No waiting for the gifts of national elections' candidates. Just real, quality education.

And GMA has nothing to do with their victory; because this is where Randy David's point about "coping" enters: "Coping belongs to the heroic culture of sharing, sacrifice, and resiliency that one finds in societies besieged by scarcity." Well, Lopez de Vega and other schools are coping very well.

We have to redefine education to ourselves and be driven by meaningful reasons to improve the kind of education we have today. We need a kind of education that aims for the real growth of a person, as an individual and a social being, in values, knowledge, and reasoning. This kind of education is not confined in DepEd- or CHED-accredited schools because families, socio-civic groups, the media, a jeepney ride, or the label at the back of a bottled iced tea can also educate us. That is, when we know what education means to us.

We need education not just to survive but to fight those who

Lessons from a dislocated shoulder

Ever since my right shoulder got dislocated during a table tennis game in 2004, I learned two lessons that I will always remember for the rest of my life. First, any physical activity needs a warm-up. I used to underestimate the possibility of being injured with the mentality that I am invincible, a "super man" who is a man of steel. Before, it's been my prerogative to immediately jump into action when I'm given the opportunity to play. Second, after that incident, I realized that my right shoulder is no longer reliable. It wasn't the strong shoulder I knew. I can't swim and do backstrokes, and I can't reach for things that need a backward movement of my right shoulder. This injury developed into a phobia that persists until now.

Everything was going smooth for almost one year now, and I thought I already recovered. I was wrong. I again dislocated my right shoulder last May of 2006. And again, I learned another lesson. Lesson that is no longer of a physical aspect but more of a psychological thinking that awakens my social consciousness of what is happening in this country. A lesson that opened my eyes from today's harsh realities that keeps on plaguing the Filipino mentality of finding greener pastures.

It was the last day of my coverage for the PRISAA-National Games at Lingayen, Pangasinan. After a 30-minute trip on a mini bus, I arrived at Dagupan City where I and the rest of the coverage team had checked-in. Upon stepping out,

I slipped on the wet floor of the bus. My right hand held on to a railing. My shoulder twisted and its joint popped out of its socket.

I called my fellow staff to pick me up where the bus dropped me off and send me to the nearest hospital. I was asked to ride the wheelchair. I was quite anxious when, for the first time, a wheelchair carried me. At the reception area, I was surprised that there were dozens of intern nurses who literally outnumbered the patients. The nurses were congested at the reception area, doing nothing but idiosyncrasies. "Oh, okay. Now I know there are a lot of nursing schools that just sprout like mushrooms," I said to myself.

For sometime they were pointing fingers on who would take the information from me. After their "deliberation," an intern approached me and sheepishly asked for my name, address, what happened to me, what part is injured, how does it feel, etc. I answered all her questions. I even told her that it's an old injury and would usually snap back in place after a few minutes. But this time, I had to be brought to the hospital. She then took my temperature.

After her, there were three more interns who asked me the same questions. At first, it felt good knowing that an intern took care of me, but later on, I felt irritated being asked by different interns, making me look like an experimental mouse. I didn't want to be pissed off so when the fifth one approached me, I told her, "Tanungin mo

Jose Emmanuel H. Ramos



THE JOURNALIST CHEF

There I was, being interviewed by five interns only to find out they've given the doctor a false report.

na lang doon sa naunang apat, pare-parehas lang naman kayo ng tanong." After that, I had my X-ray and I was then moved to an emergency room. It was something I never expected to see in my whole life. There were five of us in that room. To my right was a baby with hydrocephalus who was accidentally dropped by her mother. To my left was an old man who just died from a vehicular accident. And the two lying down from across the room were drunken teenagers who were in a motorcycle accident. Being there gave me a strange feeling.

When the doctor came, he asked the nurse to transfer me to another room. The doctor checked my records made by the interns and asked me, "Oh, *nabangga ka ba ng bus? Nasaan ang mga sugat mo?*" I was puzzled with what he said. There I was, being interviewed by five interns only to find out they've given the doctor a false report. I explained to the doctor what really happened. "Nadulas po ako, hindi nabangga," I said. He looked

at my X-ray result and started putting back the joint to its socket. I lay in bed; the doctor pulled my arm downward while a nurse assisted him. The joint went in place as if nothing happened.

As we went back to our hotel at around 12 midnight, I couldn't help but ponder on my experience with the interns at the hospital and ask: Do their schools really prioritize the quantity of students over the quality of their education? A dean of a prominent nursing school told me before that there are only two kinds of nursing school: the profit-oriented and the quality-oriented. The former has been a target market for generally poor students, students who are lured by the institutions that are giving false hopes. Where everything you see on print ads, televisions, and radios are all sugarcoated for attraction that you won't be able to see where the h**I they are come the board exam. Their competency level is way below the standards yet they keep on accepting a lot of students. Their reputation is questionable yet they keep on telling the market that they are the best choice.

With my experience, I therefore conclude that a lot of nursing institutions are half-cooked and just exists for the purpose of business.

That is my third lesson... and it was worth my injury.

Email the author at pastry_chef_jc@yahoo.com.ph.

Heraldo Filipino

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Deofelyn C. Ocayo, Editor in Chief
Jose Emmanuel H. Ramos, Associate Editor
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Ms. Haydee Abayan-Sy, Publication Adviser

The HERALDO FILIPINO has its editorial office at Room 213, Gregoria Montoya Hall (Administration Building), De La Salle University-Dasmariñas, Cavite, Philippines 4115.
Telephone: +63 2 844 7832, +63 46 416 4531 local 3063.
Mobile: +63 910 310 5220. E-mail: heraldofilipino@yahoo.com.
Contributions, comments, suggestions, and signed letters should be addressed to the Editor in Chief.
All materials are subject to editing for clarity and space.

Boy Bawang

The title is memorable for me though it doesn't have that much to do with this column. It is just part of my so-called realization on my efficiency as a leader.

It has been a month since I attended the PRO La Salle (Program for Lasallian Student Leaders) Seminar. As I was browsing through the invitation given by the Students Development and Activities Office (SDAO), I was a bit hesitant to read it because I was so tired with paperwork, and I just got home from our three-day yearend seminar. I was exhausted that I did not bother to read the invitation. I just wanted to relax at home, eat plenty of nutritious food, and sleep as if I would not wake up. But still, I gave the seminar a try.

At the seminar, it was nice to see new faces and those I've already met from past conferences. When the seminar started, I was bored. The first activity was not enough to meet my high expectations. I am a playful and tasteful person and I don't take things too seriously. I could not help but stare at the ground and slay my rights as a listener. I admit, I liked the speaker but the approach was so somber that I just pretended to listen to whatever he

was talking about. However, the activities that followed proved me wrong. It was just when this "Tagging" or "Labeling" activity started that I found myself comfortable with the participants and with what the seminar wanted me to discover. The game was about the negative traits of student leaders within their organizations. I was quite surprised with the message of the activity.

It really hit me like a bullet aimed at the exact point. Bull's eye!

The significance of the activity brought me out of my innocence. It's really hard when something figuratively spits on your face. Yes, it was right on target. The lessons unwrapped in front of me were painful and at the same time interesting.

As a former Art and Graphics Editor, I used to be tangled with the negative aspects of being a student servant-leader. I am quite bossy and I admit that I sometimes tend to abuse my powers. I sometimes miss deadlines and yet I demand reasons from my staff for their own wrongdoings. I was too blind to see the hidden traits of my staff that I usually talk with and assign assignments to those I am in favor of. The closed contortion of my sense of commitment filled me up

Allan Mitz P. Arato



YOUMANITY

It's really hard when something figuratively spits on your face.

with frustrations and ambiguity that I only focused on the output and not on the elements that built it. And yet, I was pronounced as a good section editor.

This episode of insights waved to me a chance to change my behavior and working relationship not as an editor but as a servant whose main goal is to serve the students.

I am not a boss. I am just a servant.

And I am not ashamed of it.

I learned that student servant-leaders must not withdraw from their aspirations just because they see loose strings from the past. A primary foundation that they must establish is their integrity and their commitment in their mission. Communication is also an essential tool. All must be a good communicator and a good listener as well. It

is not enough to set a good example just to find out that we are just pretending to do so.

I was just astonished when a student leader, who is half-Japanese and half-Filipino, stated that there is still hope in this country of polluted souls and downfalls. He was right. To see these student leaders learn about the principles of leadership made me believe that, too.

This year would be a great challenge for all Lasallian student leaders to unite and think of a better solution in completely upholding the vision of this institution.

Ang nakalipas na kalamidad ay tila nagbabadya ng nakakatakot na simula.

Ang nilibing ng hinagpis at poot ay unti-unti ng nalilimutan.

Ang panahong ginugulan ng pawis at dugo ay unti-unti na ring nawawala.

Ngunit, may bukas pa...

My deep regards to Sir Ritchie Bongcaron for giving us, student servant-leaders, the opportunity to unlock in us the morals of utilizing our capabilities to serve the students and the Filipino people.

By the way, *Boy Bawang* is the name of my group in the event.

Email the author at jou31thesis@yahoo.com.

STAFFER'S CORNER
Fear factor

By Christina Logro

Take this scenario, for instance.

It was in one of her toddler years—that particular stage wherein she has started to talk, respond, and earn a grasp of what the world is—when Angela first witnessed her father getting mad. She and her parents were at the living room; her father was contemplating on the papers, her mom was preparing Sunday food, and she was enjoying the world of her toys. It was a fine day actually, with the sunlight peeping from the living room drapes, and Sunday music resonating from a nearby household. Her mother approached her dad and whispered a line or two—it even looked sweet and doting to little Angela—but, much like a bubble that got pricked, her father, all of a sudden, just burst in anger and heightened emotion. Her father shocked Angela, with his unusual manner of spitting bitter remarks and accusations to a woman who, after all, was his wife. All the more did he shock Angela when he started throwing anything that was close at hand, from the newspaper he was reading, to mirrors and porcelain wares. Beginning that day, Angela carried with her this concept of what and how her father is. Beginning that day, a new yet peculiar emotion for her father sparked within her. And that was FEAR.

However, little Angela knew her father was not at all a stranger—he had just displayed something strange. And there could be a reason why people, including her father, act strange.

"I only asked your father if we could send you to school come next year, that's all."

To little Angela, going to school was not the issue; her father was, of course, in favor of it. She supposed it had something to do with the act of asking itself, or perhaps, its timing. Stupid, she had heard her father yell at her mom. There must be things that need not be asked nor clarified, especially to her father. There must be things that one should IMMEDIATELY know.

Growing up, Angela witnessed a couple more instances of plates crashing and badmouthing from her father. Gradually, she ceased to heed her dad's reasons. There were a lot of concerns that displeased her father. The only thing Angela was certain at that time was that she feared her father's fury, so she had to watch her moves in all occasions.

Ruled by fear, their life made strangers out of each other. Silence became common; communication became rare; and expectedly, so was understanding. Angela learned to coin monikers and call her father names, and started to feel their side—hers and her mother's feelings and thoughts—was often disregarded and disrespected, and was a thing not of the "KING's" interest.

She has always believed in respect as one of humanity's quintessential elements, but she despised respect as a fruit of fear.

Fear has also led her to doubt, and she no longer settled for the true causes of her dad's actions. Instead, she began to have her own interpretation of things. Slowly, fear began to breed hatred in her.

FEAR. And a life in fear.

Angela dealt with a life spent in fear. And that was just Angela's story. Everyday, I get to hear bits and pieces of other people's encounter with fear. They are on TV, in flicks, and in conversations. The sad part is, those stories do not only involve their parents.

For three years, I was handled by a number of mentors. And to some, I even became their student twice. I have come across several teacher-student issues during those years, and it is but saddening that I got to witness how teachers and students have become strangers to one another.

It was but depressing to hear recurrent complaints from students regarding a certain professor's rudeness when asked for clarifications. It was but disheartening to know that some instructors have taken inquiries as a sign of *kabobohan*, or furthermore, insult. I, also a student, have always believed in questions as merely seeking answers, and not concealed methods of attack.

It is but disturbing to imagine that such manifestations by professors could, if it didn't yet, breed doubt on students. Such doubt that goes beyond reason, since fear cultivates silence and assumptions, and not reasons.

Moreover, this enveloping atmosphere of fear among teachers and students has caused indifference and angst towards one another. It is noticeable that complaints were relayed, but never to the one/s concerned. They were raised, but were not settled, and instead have served as "cards" each party has against each other.

Naging personalan na ang lahat. Evaluation forms, distributed at the end of each semester, have become students' precious weapons (and ultimate revenge). In a scene where OPEN COMMUNICATION LINES could have brought immediate aid, silence was present. Fear, indeed, results to silence, and silence results to misunderstanding.

In a nutshell, it is but disappointing to see that strangers could be molded out of family members, wherein harmony should actually be a topmost priority.

FEAR. And a life in fear.

Why should there be a life of fear, actually? Why would a father resort to breeding fear in his family's consciousness? Why would a mentor encourage uncomfortable distance between him and his students?

SOUL BITS

News reporting is a tough business that tends to make reporters hard and unfeeling. That's what Barbara Bradley, a correspondent for National Public Radio, tells aspiring journalists. But she also believes it doesn't have to be that way. "I made a strategic decision when I first fell in love with journalism," Bradley says, "that if I found myself beginning to get tough I would leave the business. It's just a career, and why mortgage your character for a career? Maintaining your character counts for something and you can do it; it's just a decision you have to make."

In every high-pressure situation, we can react like most people or we can choose to be different. J. B. Phillips translates Romans 12:2 this way: "Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mold, but let God remold your minds from within, so that you may prove in practice that the plan of God for you is good, meets all His demands, and moves toward the goal of true maturity" (The New Testament in Modern English).

When we feel pressure to conform, character can stand firm on the bedrock of conviction, saying, "This is God's way and it is best." Maintaining our character begins and continues with a decision. Let's make it today. —David C. McCasland

O Lord, You see what's in my heart—
There's nothing hid from You;
So help me live the kind of life
That's loving, kind, and true.
—D. De Haan

Beautiful character begins in the heart.

Source: **Our Daily Bread 2004**

Fresh meat

I can't believe summer's over.

I mean, *the* summer—the sun-and-beach season I love—and not the school term many students refer to as simply "summer."

It seems like for the first time ever, it's only this year that I wasn't really able to have a decent vacation. Sure, I was able to spend a couple of weeks in our province where my family and I go to every April or May since...uhm...the time I was conceived, I guess. But that wasn't much.

All in all, I could just say that the season I knew, which consists of island-hopping and occasional road-tripping with friends, has been reduced to two stolen afternoons dawdling at a nearby beach. For someone like me who loves the feel of sand between my toes and salt-water on my skin, this summer's just plain pathetic. And I didn't even get a tan line.

But then, maybe that's what it means to really grow up: less good times basking in the warm sun, more afternoons sitting in front of a computer screen; less moments relishing nature as I lay myself by the seashore, more hours pulling my brains out for a heaven-sent column topic to write about.

With less leisure time and more "haggard days"—yes, this is indeed growing up, with all the responsibilities and expecta-

tions that go with it. But hey, I'm not complaining.

Tip to the freshmen: Sooner or later, if you're fortunate enough, you'll know exactly what I mean.

Still, this column isn't about welcoming the freshmen. They've already had enough "welcomes" from everyone else to last them the whole semester. With all the long walks that would definitely take time getting used to, they'd feel more sore and tired than welcome.

So, back to my point: With growing up (which is not entirely biologically) comes more responsibilities, more demands. At times, we have to set aside the things we love and the things we like to do, for the sake of the things we have to do. At times, when we grow up, we are expected to set an example, and a good one at that.

But I'd like to think that growing up doesn't necessarily qualify us to be frigid, to always have that stiff upper lip towards everything life hurls at us. I'd like to believe that growing up doesn't really mean we have to set aside what we love. At this point, growth could mean doing what you have to do, and eventually loving it. Yes, we can actually marry responsibility with pure, unadulterated pleasure.

It is when we love what we do that we actually learn, right?

Tiffany Grace D. Pabalate



WISDOMWEED

But then, maybe that's what it means to really grow up: less moments relishing nature as I lay myself by the seashore, more hours pulling my brains out for a heaven-sent column topic to write about.

At least I hope so; because as early as June, loads of paperwork and things-to-do are waiting for me to give them all the love I can give.

Now, instead of spreading out the red—err, green—carpet for the freshmen, I bid the upperclassmen, "Hi!"

Welcome back.

So what's new?

There's the addition to the campus dress code: the sleeveless blouse. However, I still have queries. With all the trends, styles, and cuts in women's tops, just how sleeveless is sleeveless, anyway? It might be too early to say, but I just hope weeks (even months) from now, students won't be asking this same question.

Buhay third world

Have you ever checked the list of business tycoons and well-to-do people only to find out that most of them have very foreign, hard-to-pronounce family names? Have you ever seen a country where coup staggers, actors, and maybe even criminals get high positions in the government? Or maybe the well-known family clans unceasingly make the government their very own family business?

If your answer is yes to any of these questions, then you're possibly in a third world country.

In the beginning, being deemed a third world country didn't have any negative connotation. According to *Encarta Encyclopedia*, it was only coined to categorize countries who weren't allies of the United States or the now non-existent Soviet Union during the Cold War of the 1945-1990s. After the collapse of the USSR, the term was used as a label for less-developed countries, both economically and technologically.

Contrary to most people's perception, being deemed a third world country isn't all about the economic status of the country. Becoming a third world country is a lifestyle. A lifestyle of greed, corruption, abuse, and neglect. Add a weak moral fiber and

you've got a recipe for disaster.

The keyword is "instantness." People who have the lifestyle of third world countries love the idea of "instantness." In a third world country, gambling is a career. Isn't that why people at the Ultra Stadium on that fateful day risked their lives? They were victims of a sad, out-of-control situation. And isn't that why so many people lose their "careers" whenever the government decides to have a crackdown on jueteng and the like?

Another lifestyle is trial by publicity. Let's take for example a first world country like Japan. I remember seeing an article that shows pictures of some of their government officials who were taken out of office due to accusations of corruption. All of them had some sort of towel or cloth covering their face. They were too ashamed to even face the cameras. Here in the Philippines, accusations of corruption or any other wrongdoing for that matter will turn you into an instant celebrity. Nothing but your smiles and waves, or maybe tears and words, will be seen and heard on television, newspapers, magazines, and radios. And then after some time everything is forgotten. Just as simple as that.

And that leads to another very famous trademark of a

Patricia Aurora M. Cruz



SMALL TALK

But wouldn't it be nice if it's the other way around? If our lifestyles dictate the progress of our society?

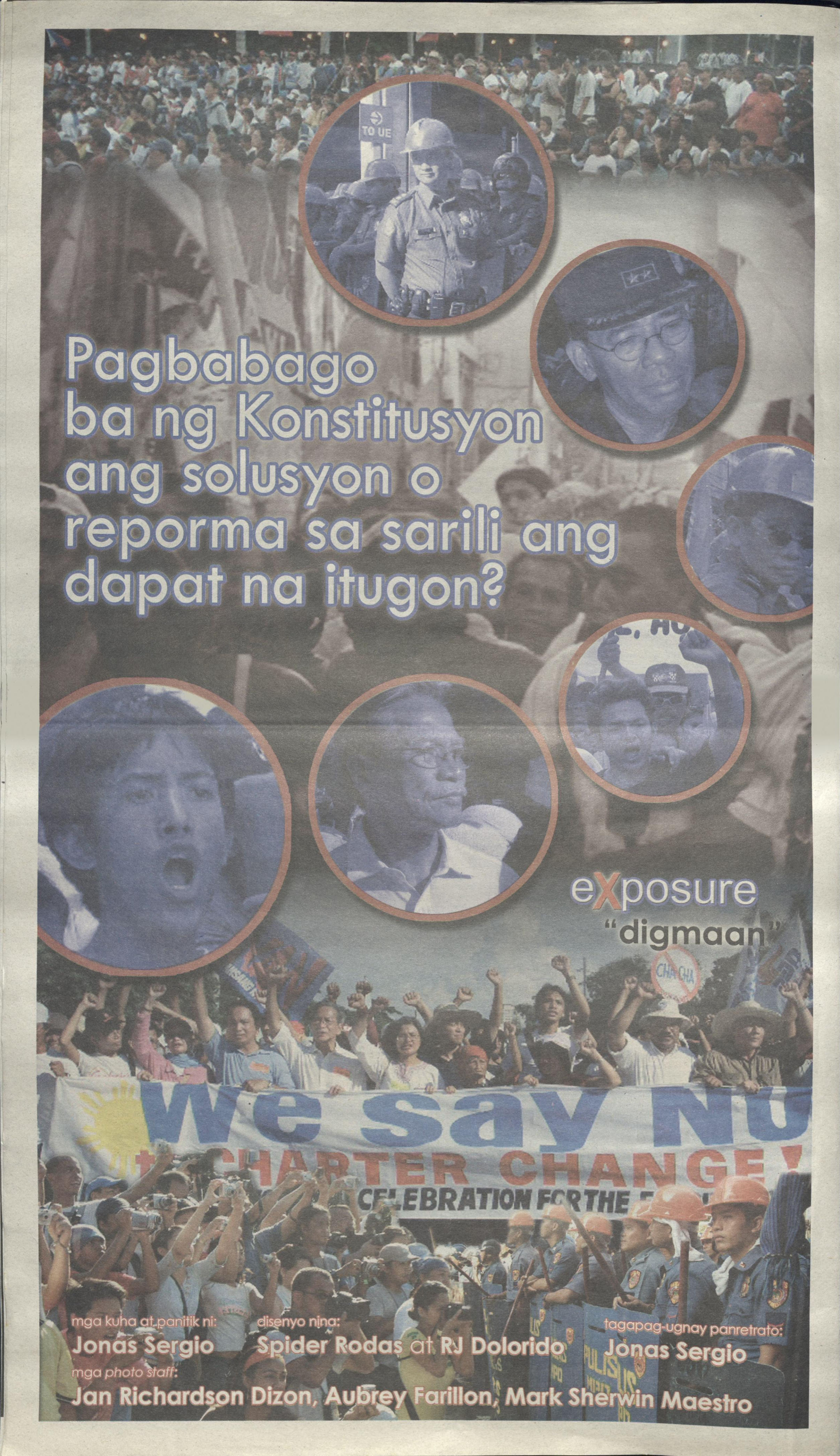
true third world country, if not the most famous: justice is best served cold in third world countries. Yes, cold because it's been standing for so long without being served. Some would even wonder if it would ever be provided at all. Rape cases, murder cases, plunder cases, you name it, and the justice system will take it. Just don't think that you're in a fast food restaurant, or you'll end up in the frustration of a lifetime.

I read something in the *Philippine Daily Inquirer* that attests to this fact. In a column written by Ramon Farolan, he mused over the conviction of the top executives of Enron, which used to be the 7th largest company in the United States. These top execs were convicted of corruption and fraud, as they deliber-

ately deceived their investors and employees by hiding important financial information. Farolan expressed how justice is truly blind in Uncle Sam's territory, how the law excuses no one, even rich executives. Sadly, we cannot say the same for our country. It seems that if you have money or power, the law no longer applies to you. And what's more depressing, I can't prove him wrong.

But hey, who says lifestyles can't be changed? Sure it's hard, but easy isn't synonymous to good, right? It might take months, years, even decades. Who knows? Maybe I'm wrong. Maybe this lifestyle is only a product of our depressing economic state. But wouldn't it be nice if it's the other way around? If our lifestyles dictate the progress of our society? Oh well... But if ever these lifestyles do change, I made one promise to myself: I will never call the Philippines a third world country, no matter what the economic situation of the country is.

If you were angered, inspired, irritated, moved, or you just want to share reactions and ideas, e-mail me at padmc3988@yahoo.com. Looking forward to your insights. (**wink**)



Pagbabago
ba ng Konstitusyon
ang solusyon o
reforma sa sarili ang
dapat na itugon?

exposure
"digmaan"

mga kuha at panitik ni:

Jonas Sergio

disenyo ni:

Spider Rodas at RJ Dolorido

tagapag-ugnay panretrato:

Jonas Sergio

mga photo staff:

Jan Richardson Dizon, Aubrey Farillon, Mark Sherwin Maestro

Patriots in Service



De La Salle University-Dasmariñas
Council of Student Organizations

Co-Curricular Organizations

College of Business Administration
BMS—Business Management Society
ECONORG—Economics Organization
JFINEX—Junior Financial Executives Institute of the Philippines
JMA—Junior Marketing Association
JPAMA—Junior Philippine Association of Management Accountants
JPIA—Junior Philippine Institute of Accountants
YES—Young Entrepreneurs Society

College of Engineering and Technology
IES—Industrial Engineering Society
Jr. IECEP—Junior Institute of Electronics and Communication Engineers of the Philippines
MES—Mechanical Engineering Society

College of International Hospitality Management
HRMS—Hotel and Restaurant Management Society
TLS—Turismo La Salleño

College of Science
LPS—La Sallian Pre-Medical Society (***former SYSBIOSS)
JPCS—Junior Philippines Computer Society (***former NECSS)

Interest Organizations

BREAD—Bible Reader's Society (***newly accredited)
CALL—Career Action League of Lasallian Students
CBI—Christian Brotherhood International
CoSA—Circle of Student Assistants (***newly accredited)
DMS—De La Salle Dasmariñas Mountaineering Society
FC—Football Club (***newly accredited)
FL—Friends of the Library
HS—Honor's Society
LSC—Lasallian Speech Club
LWC—Lasallian Women's Circle
PUNLA—Pinag-Isang Ugnayan ng mga Nagkakaisang Lasalyano
TNPA—Tropang Negosyante Po Ako
TAEK—Taekwondo Club
UMAC—Union of Martial Arts Club (***newly accredited)
VB—Vibrant Beat
YFC—Youth for Christ
YOF—Youth on Fire

FYI: Interest Organizations are open for any bona fide student in the University while Co-curricular Organizations are open for students under respective colleges.

For more information, please contact **Randy** (+63 916 715 1675) or **RJ** (+63 920 212 0392), or visit our office at GMH 210.



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De La Salle University-Dasmariñas
University Student Commission on Elections

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The University Student Commission on Elections is now looking for new members.

If you are interested, please contact the following people:

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For more information, please visit us at GMH 208.



De La Salle University-Dasmariñas
Students Extension of Resources through Voluntary Efforts



Madami silang kuwento ukol sa kanilang mga buhay...

nais mo bang makinig?

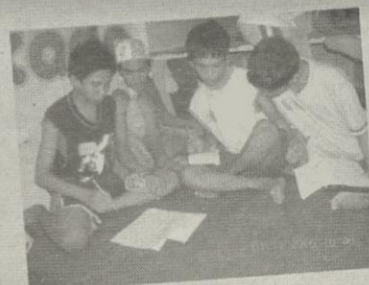
Nag-aaral sila sa likod ng malamig na rehas ...

gusto mo bang umagapay sa kanila?



Nais nilang makapagbasa at makapagsulat...

gusto mo bang umagapay sa kanila?



MABAGABAG! MAKISANGKOT!

MAGLINGKOD!

MAG-BOLUNTIR!

Students Extension of Resources through Voluntary Efforts (SERVE)

Ang lipunan ay naghahanap ng mga masisigag at matulunging estudyanteng tulad mo upang makikibahagi sa gawaing pagpapanibago ng lipunan sa pamamagitan ng boluntaryong pagseserbisyo. Kung interesado ka, maaring makipag-ugnayan sa Lasallian Community Development Center, ikalawang palapag, SBC Bldg., DLSU-Dasmariñas.

Rekwayments:
ID Piktyur
Kopya ng Registration Form
Pagtatalaga ng Sarili

COUNCIL OF STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS and DLSU-D VIBRANT BEAT

Choose your bet!

Through the collaborative effort of the Council of Student Organizations (CSO), and DLSU-D Vibrant Beat (VB), organized an activity entitled **RITMO: A Search for the Ultimate Campus Freshman Dance Idol**. This aims to unlock the students' potentials and freely express themselves through the art of dancing.

The major activities of the competition:

- **Showdown**—this showdown, which will be held on August 16, 2006 at the Tanghalang Julian Felipe from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., will eliminate five finalists.
- **Grand Finals**—this round is a 60-minute showdown of the remaining four finalists. The awarding will immediately proceed after the final showdown. It will be incorporated in the CSO's event "KTS 9" targeted to be held on September 20, 2006 at the Grandstand parking lot from 3:00 to 8:00 p.m.

These semifinalists are subjected to undergo training every Monday and Wednesday at the CBA Lobby from 5:00 to 8:00 pm in order to enhance and polish their moves. Supporters of these finalists can vote thru text poll or thru "one peso per vote" system on booths, which was planned to be strategically located on east and west campus.



Iris Lorren P. Hequibal
BIT14



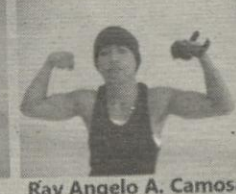
Feann Gelie L. Silva
CDM11



Abigail C. De Asis
BSE11



Ros Daniel S. Arriola
BCS12



Ray Angelo A. Camosa
CEE11



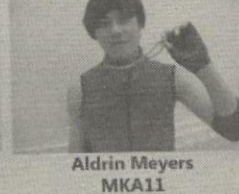
Elise Veronica S. Del Castillo
BSE11



Jess Anderson T. Bongcayal
BSN16



Braza Bell V. de Luna
PSY12



Aldrin Meyers
MKA11

Who's gonna lead in the dance floor and rise as the first ever Campus Dance Idol?

THE FINALISTS OF RITMO:

The Search For The Ultimate Campus Freshman Dance Idol

De La Salle University-Dasmariñas Academic Calendar (AY 2006-2007)

JUNE 2006						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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AUGUST 2006						
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SEPTEMBER 2006						
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OCTOBER 2006						
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First Semester

April 17-May 9
May 11-29
May 24-26
May 11-Jun 29
Jun 7-9
Jun 8
Jun 9
Jun 12
Jun 13
Jun 16
Jun 16
Jun 16
Jun 27
Jun 30-Aug 15
Jul 17-22
Jul 18
Aug 2
Aug 1-31
Aug 13
Aug 21
Aug 27
Aug 28-Sep 2
Sep 4-15
Sep 14
Sep 29
Oct 5
Oct 9-14
Oct 18
Oct 20
Oct 14-Nov 5

Second Semester

Oct 23-Nov 4
Nov 3
Oct 23-Nov 20
Nov 1
Nov 2
Nov 6
Nov 9
Nov 21-Jan 16
Nov 30
Dec 8
Dec 11-16
Dec 15
Dec 17-Jan 2
Jan 3
Jan 8
Jan 17-19
Jan 26
Jan 29
Jan 29-Feb 3
Feb 15
Feb 19-24
Mar 1-10
Mar 1
Mar 15
Mar 16
Mar 12-17
Mar 20
Mar 22
Mar 26
Mar 29
Mar 30

Summer Term

Mar 31-Apr 3
Apr 5
Apr 6
Apr 9
Apr 10
Apr 26-27
Apr 28
May 1
May 11
May 15
May 17-18
May 18-24
May 25
May 29

Enrolment for Freshmen
Enrolment for Upperclassmen
Freshmen Orientation 1st Batch
Adding/Changing of Subject/s and Dropping of Subject/s with Refund
Freshman Orientation 2nd Batch
Orientation of New Faculty Members
Faculty General Assembly
Independence Day
Opening of Classes
Cancellation of Pre-registered Slot and Unprocessed Registration Forms
Freshmen Parents' Orientation
Mass of the Holy Spirit
Dropping of Subject/s without Refund
Preliminary Examinations
29th Foundation Day
Preliminary Grades Due at the Deans' Offices
Buwan ng Wika
Feast of St. Benilde Romançon
Ninoy Aquino Day
National Heroes' Day
Midterm Examinations
Pre-registration Period
Midterm Grades Due at the Deans' Offices
University Charter Day
Memorial Day/Death Anniversary of Fr. Palileo
Final Examinations
Final Grades Due at the Registrar's Office
Individual Report of Grades Distribution
Semester Break

Enrolment
Orientation of New Faculty Members
Adding/Changing of Subject/s and Dropping of Subject/s with Refund
All Saints' Day
All Souls' Day
Opening of Classes
Cancellation of Pre-registered Slot and Unprocessed Registration Forms
Dropping of Subject/s without Refund
Bonifacio Day
Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Preliminary Examinations
Institutional Christmas Party
Christmas Vacation
Resumption of Classes
Preliminary Grades Due at the Deans' Offices
Lasallian Days
Catholic Teachers' Day
Memorial Day/Death of Br. Andrew Gonzalez FSC
Midterm Examinations
Midterm Grades Due at the Deans' Offices
Final Examinations for Graduating Students
Pre-registration Period
Final Grades of Graduating Students Due at the Registrar's Office
General Rehearsal for Graduation (1st Batch)
General Rehearsal for Graduation (2nd Batch)
Final Examinations for Non-Graduating Students
Baccalaureate Mass
Graduation Day
Final Grades of Non-Graduating Students Due at the Registrar's Office
Individual Report of Grades Distribution
Faculty and Staff Outing

Enrolment
Maundy Thursday
Good Friday
Araw ng Kagitingan
Opening of Summer Term
Midterm Examinations
General Alumni Homecoming
Labor Day
Staff Recognition
Feast of St. La Salle
Final Examinations
Higher Education Week
Final Grades Due at the Registrar's Office
Individual Report of Grades Distribution

Summary of Class Days

No classes
Examinations
Holidays

June	16	November	21	April	15
July	26	December	13	May	13
August	27	January	25		
September	26	February	24		
October	12	March	15		
TOTAL	107	TOTAL	98	TOTAL	28

DECEMBER 2006						
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JANUARY 2007						
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APRIL 2007						
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MAY 2007						
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He's just **vain** really really

He's not gay!

By Christine Weizel Gulfan

Notice the guy sitting at the back of our class. He's wearing pink. He's too loud and he's actually paying attention to our lesson. Besides, he seems to have the gift of tongue when it comes to women, even if the topics are about trends and celebrities. You shrug and think: DEFINITELY GAY.

But when he unravels his beautiful girlfriend you decide he's just bi.

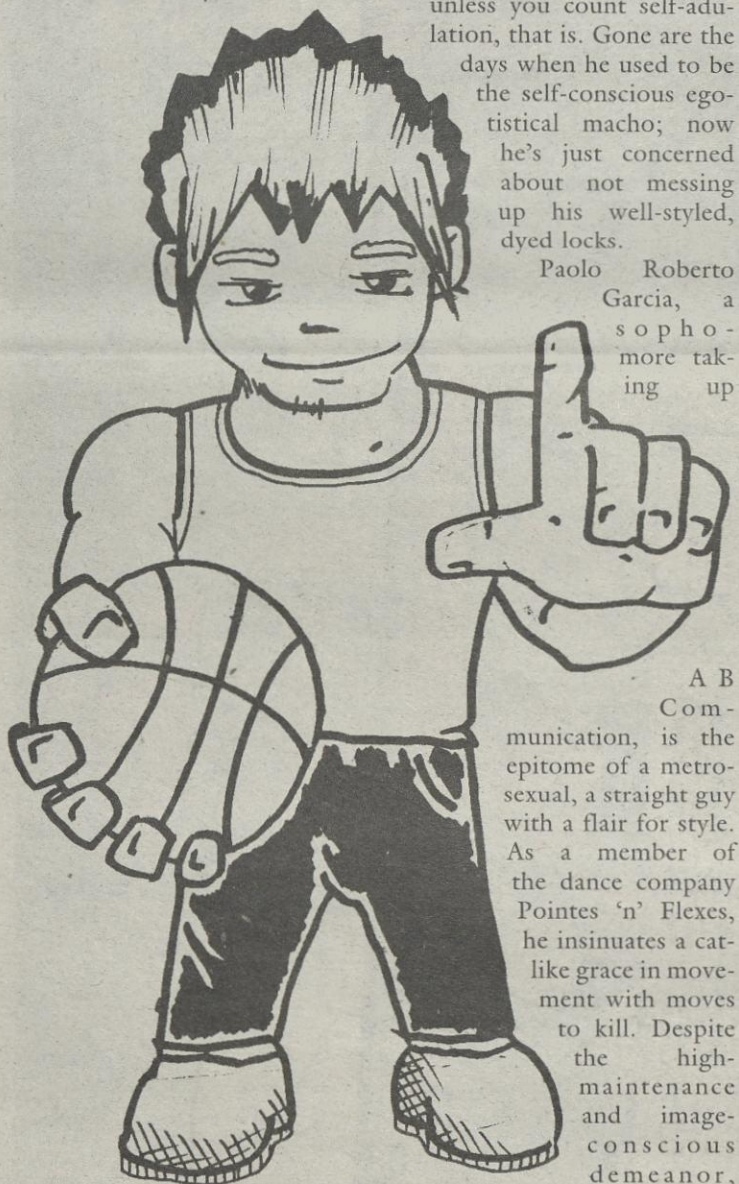
Until he assures you he's straight.
Now you're confused.

That guy holding a compact mirror

It wasn't long ago when men still practiced machismo like a religion. The days when they wouldn't be caught dead wearing pink, more so investing their hard-earned money on perfume. Today, this is no longer the case. The modern "he" could fill his bathroom cabinet with toners and hydrating mists whilst adorning himself with a bandanna, David-Beckham style, without having to swing the other way,

unless you count self-adulation, that is. Gone are the days when he used to be the self-conscious egotistical macho; now he's just concerned about not messing up his well-styled, dyed locks.

Paolo Roberto Garcia, a sophomore more taking up



A B Communication, is the epitome of a metrosexual, a straight guy with a flair for style. As a member of the dance company Pointes 'n' Flexes, he insinuates a cat-like grace in movement with moves to kill. Despite the high-maintenance and image-conscious demeanor, he hardly invests in vanity. "Matagal na 'yung 10 minutes sa salamin sa akin," Garcia confesses.

Mel Jayson Sanchez, another sophomore taking up Hotel and Restaurant Management, looks like the typical Casanova strutting on the East Campus with strong Chinese features. Who would have thought that the 16-year-old party animal has had only two girlfriends? Although he confesses to taking at least 30 minutes bathroom time and 10 minutes hair styling, he sees nothing strange in devoting time on his looks. He also doesn't find the color pink exclusive to the Aphrodites, as he is fond of wearing the fun shade as well.

Contrary to popular belief, metros are neither bi nor gay; they are the death of sexuality as described by Mark Simpson, a British and outspokenly gay social "commentarist." Simpson explains that metrosexuals are more likely to be narcissistic than gay and added that they are more often considered as the ladies' man since their definition of socializing is flirting. Men of their caliber are just as tough as the traditional macho but only with softer edges, especially on their designer sleeves.

The metamorphosis of the King Arthur specie to the Brad Pitt similes progressed after the 60's women's revolution. "The feminist movement has been the biggest contributor to the men's market since it has developed," says Jean-Marc Carriol, director of the fashion company Trimex, which represents Clarins in Australia. Carriol added that the triumph of the 60's movement has permanently altered the manner by which men behave since women are now more vocal of their desires to see men who look gorgeous.

Modern day economics also played a huge role in promoting the metro patronage, society's fetish for white-collar jobs requires men to shed their brute-skin to accommodate a silky-toned complexion needed for the job. The new generation demands that they do their job well and look good while doing it.

The advertising industry jumped for joy with the scent of the new male breed. As shown by the countless commercialized or advertised vanity products for men and the wildfire of exclusive gent's fashion lines and merchandise, the media couldn't be more ecstatic with the generation's sexual revolution. Some of the good examples are *GQ* and *Men's Health Magazine*, which cater to masculine vanity, even the blokkier and the macho *FHM*

along with *Ralph* magazine have increased the number of articles tackling image-care.

Two-faced Adonis

It used to be either black or white, gay or straight—now the bifurcation is a fallacy. On "his" point of view, swinging both ways will just increase "his" chances of dating.

A certain Communication student who insists on being anonymous admitted to having had a homosexual relationship as a freshman. He said that the whole experience was more of an experiment for the sake of feeding his curiosity. When asked about the difference between his gay liaison and his previous straight relationships, he said being with a woman usually requires him to lead. "Pag girl kasi, ikaw 'yung didiskarte. 'Yung sa isa (gay) siyempre ['yun] 'yung nangangarir sa iyo," he cited. Although he refuses to label himself as a bisexual, he doesn't condemn the idea of being with another man again "Siguro 'pag nauilit, 'yun, bisexual na ako," he shares.

It seems that Communication Arts students are truly masters of the "Liberal" Arts as they tend to be more laissez-faire in terms of their sexuality, as another Communication senior shared, who also had a homosexual relationship during his high school years. Although his experience was more of a fling, it went as far up to what he calls the third base, defined as "under-the-clothes sexual intimacy." The bold passion between the two took place within campus walls during the night of a recreational school activity. The one-time daring affair may have been caused by the fact that their high school was exclusive to boys, thus giving the males' raging hormones no outlet in the field of the she.

The common denominator between the two anonymous individuals is that they both experienced a taste of the swing during their mid-teens. "I've always thought of myself as a bisexual after that incident," the senior added, but he has also informed us that up until now he has made himself exclusive to society's Eve.

Doctor Luis Carmelo Buenaventura, our very own anthropologist at DLSU-D, explains this incident through what is called "Latent Homosexuality," wherein young men may experience gay fantasies from ages 13-17. However, if the blissful desires towards the same sex persists up to their 20's, then that's the time the matter could be subjected to psychological counseling so as to determine if the sexual shift is not just a product of identity crises.

Doctor's orders

Really, it cannot be denied that the boom of the third sex took the world by storm. Gays and bis are actively participating within our society. No longer are they confined within show business, though that is where they remain prominent. They are also excelling in other fields. What was once frowned upon is now embraced as a norm, which is probably why more and more people choose to defy the traditional male stereotype and adapt the new generation appeal.

Dr. Buenaventura affirms the notion that the reason for the sudden multiplication of these cases is because society is more tolerant with it than ever. He firmly believes that there is nothing wrong with such gender orientations as long as the person remains to be decent and good-natured. "Basta he's magnanimous, law abiding, and he refrains from exploiting others," he explains. Buenaventura also believes that homosexuality is innate, a natural and biological occurrence, although he also believes that sexuality could be adapted from outside influences.

The theories behind the twang

Since sexual liberation has taken its place amongst us, it is only sensible to adapt some form of explanation for the morph. Theories that include the discovery of Dr. Simon LeVay at the Salk Institute in San Diego, California present homosexuality and all its manifestation

to be biological, in efforts to justify that it is not a psychological abnormality. His studies on the human hypothalamus show that there is a slight difference between that of a straight man and a gay man.

Another study conducted by Dr. J. Michael Bailey, a psychologist from the Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, and Dr. Richard Pillard of the Family Studies Laboratory, Boston University School of Medicine, discussed homosexuality among siblings. The statistics show that 52% of identical twins are homosexual, 22% of fraternal twins, 11% of adoptive brothers, and 9% of non-twin brothers are all gay. This breakthrough was contested by various scholars saying that the study was biased due to the fact that their survey included people from the subscribers of a magazine that caters to homosexuals plus that fact the Pillard himself is gay.

Dr. John Money, a popular researcher from Johns Hopkins University, reported that homosexuality cannot be biological since there is no difference with regard to genetics. He emphasized that there is no basis to justify the hypothesis that innate homosexuality or bisexuality of any degree is different from the chromosomes of a stereotypical straight male. Even the editor of the "Journal of Homosexuality" said the idea of people being born into one kind of sexual orientation such as being gay or bi is foolish.

The New York State Psychiatric Institute stated that there is no present evidence to substantiate a biological theory of sexual classification other than the two primary sexes. Reports from the Kinsey Institute added gravity to the findings when their research showed that homosexuals undergo changes in their sexual preferences, involving themselves with the opposite sex at least once in their lives, which leaves a hanging question to the claims of innate homosexuality. After all, if people could be born gay, then why do they switch to heterosexuality and back a couple of times?

Pink and blue are just colors

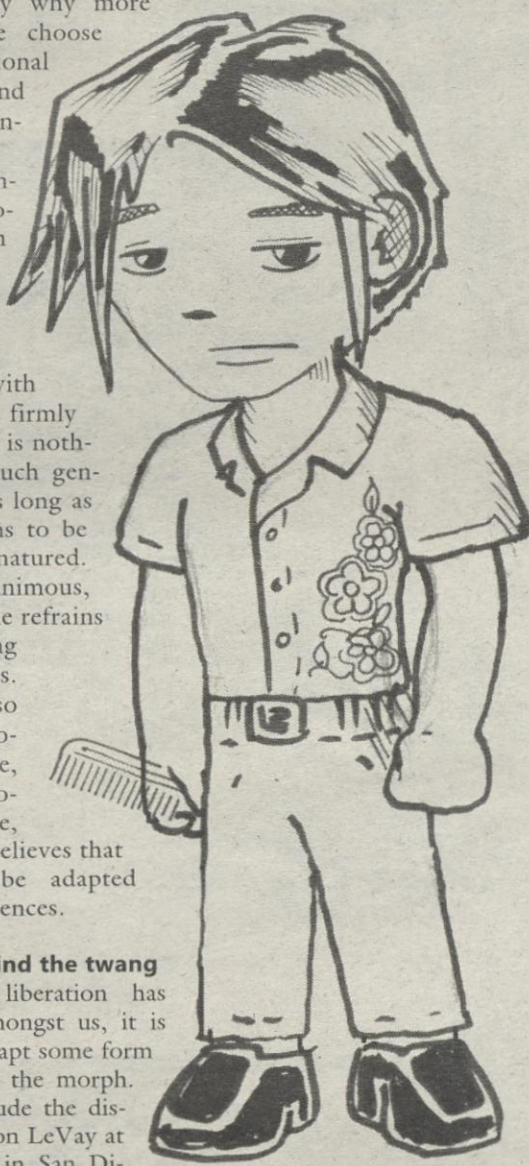
Macho, Metro, Bi, or Homo—does it really matter what your sexual disposition is? As what Dr. Buenaventura stressed, what matters is how you relate to your fellow human beings and how productive you are as a citizen. If indeed the sexual borders have blurred to the point of unisex, then at least total equality will prevail. Society has reached a point where sex is no longer an issue and fashion has trespassed masculinity. Whether he likes to shop or to compete doesn't matter. Boys will be boys no matter how manly they appear or cease to be.

Well at least they know how to appreciate femininity.

What's with "him"?

- 79% loves outdoor sports
- 78% rather stay home than socialize
- 54% thinks of sex at least twice a day
- 40% prefers earning to spending
- 59% superstitious
- 60% wine experts
- 91% prefers sex to food
- 70% won't give up calories to stay fit
- 53% dreams of being their own boss
- 20% cries at work
- 81% loves flirting
- 41% flirts even within relationship
- 61% raise eyebrows to eyebrow plucking
- 48% would do drugs if they are sure they wouldn't be caught and it's free
- 34% wants to legalize marijuana
- 6% gossips
- 62% will stand up to bullies even at risk

Source: Bernice Kannen's
"When it comes to guys, what's normal"



Illustrations by Maynard Solinap

...and so it begins

Writers have the most undemanding job in the world.

Uh, not. I admit that I used to picture them in my mind as carefree individuals who would sit on cozy couches, place their laptops in front of them while sipping signature coffee, typing away, and getting their work published instantly. Okay, you can handcuff me now and send me to a labor camp for debasing the spirit of being a writer. I cannot believe I thought that way.

It has only been a year since I joined the HERALDO FILIPINO and I realized that there is so much more than beating the deadlines and getting your grammar perfect. I thought all

you need is a flair for the English language and a dash of creativity, but you have to have the passion. Yes, for if you don't have it, you're bound to go nowhere. You may have memorized every single word in the Webster dictionary and know every synonym for each word, but if you have no passion for your craft, you will be like a pen with no ink. You have the surface but not the essence. You can write, but you do not know what to write.

It has only been a year since I first entered this amazing organization. And now all things have changed.

Student journalist. This is what I have become, what I chose to be...this is what I am.

Whenever I hear this title, it never fails to send chills down my spine. The two words give me that feeling, like being torn between need and want, like or love, friend or lover, and mom or dad. Only this time, it's much more complex: responsibility and freedom.

To be given such a big task can go two ways. You could either enlighten minds or piss people off. And I'm definite I do not want to do the latter. Being writers, one of our principal tasks is to make sure that you know and understand what we are trying to say. Feeding you information is one, but opening your minds is another. We're not here to make activists out of the stu-



Hanna Corrine G. Salta

WISH STICK
It's not how much you know but knowing that little it is that you may know, it can change anything—even everything.

dentry but to broaden your minds into the bittersweet reality that many have failed, or rather refuse, to see. It's a bad world out there and if you refuse to believe what is sitting in front of you, it will eat you

alive. Literally.

Truly, writing is not just a job. I have grown so much respect for writers after staying in HF for a year. I learned that it's not about your credentials, grades, or expertise in the English or Filipino language. I learned that it's really about what you have to say and what you're willing to do to make a change. It's not how much you know but knowing that little it is that you may know, it can change anything—even everything.

To write is a privilege and a responsibility. Writers can't just write for the sake of showing off their writing prowess. True writers write even when their environment condemns

them to do so. True writers write even on the verge of defeat. True writers gamble with mockery and hate. True writers write not for themselves, but for the people; and in our case, we write not for ourselves, but for you.

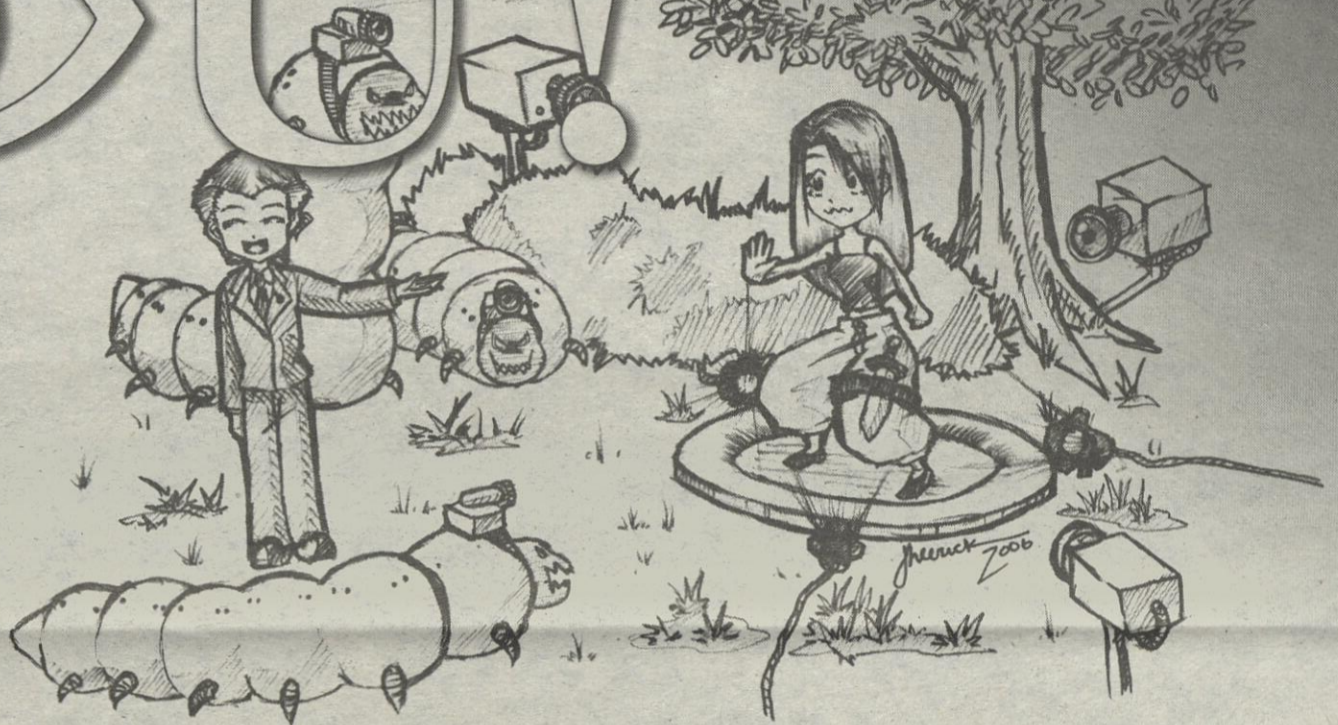
These are the things that I have so far learned from my editors. But now, I know that my true learning, the one which I myself will have to face and endure, has yet to come.

And so, my journey begins.

If you have something to say, or if you just want to babble, e-mail me here: alternativ27@yahoo.com.

We're watching

YOU!



Illustrations by Jheerick del Mundo

By Matthew Ventura

Soap operas have reigned supreme over Filipino television since the 80's. *Teleseryes*, *teledramas*, *chinovelas*, *asianovelas*, *fantaseryes*—a rose by any other name is still a rose.

But since the sudden rise of popularity of the breakthrough genre, the Filipino television audience has been parted in two, like what Moses did to the Red Sea. The first group considers soap operas as a new religion—where each episode is a new bible, and related discussions with peers, family, and the like are forms of prayer. The other group consists of those who either don't care about soap operas or those who just simply hate it.

Year 2000—soap operas, both local and foreign, still sit on the highest genre pedestal on Filipino television. Surprisingly, the plots and storylines have matured, though lengthwise. The unrealistic scenarios still plague the above mentioned, like the uber divide between the rich and the poor, or the inevitable rags to riches scenario. But many thanks to the deluge of Asian soap operas, the soaps we see now have shorter life spans and promising storylines. Its predecessors have this tendency of prolonging stories and adding too many new characters that totally blew many shows out of realistic proportion. The lead characters have also learned to fight back. They seldom kiss mud or get bullied by the villains now. And popular comic book characters one to three generations ago resurrect from our old folks' chests and breathe new life through television.

But the throne that the soap opera proudly sits on is somewhat threatened. Change is seemingly a current trend in the third world. With all those calls for "<incumbent president's name here> Resign!", cabinet shuffling, re-shuffling, and even more re-shuffling, add to that the most recent change among all changes—yes, charter change—Filipino television is changing tides.

And what force bravely reckons to overthrow such seasoned veteran?

Meet reality television.

Reality rundown

Now don't tell me you

don't know what reality television is. I bet even if you don't watch the tube you know what it is. But okay, for those who really want some lowdown, and also for formal consumption, let's define reality television first.

According to the Encyclopedia of Television, reality television covers a broad range of non-fiction television programs that make use of cinema verité techniques, surveillance video, low-end production values, or natural settings. In reality shows, participants are placed in unrehearsed or unscripted situations.

If we base it on the definition, shows like *America's Funniest Home Videos*, *Candid Camera*, *Cops*, and *Just for Laughs* can be considered part of the reality genre. In some ways, they are. They pioneered the most prominent concepts in many reality shows today. For instance, *Cops* was the first in the camcorder look and the *cinéma vérité* feel, which is a dominant feature in most reality programs. *Cinéma vérité* is a filmmaking style that aims for extreme naturalism through replacing professional actors with non-professional ones, studios, and stages with real locations, and edited dialogues and sounds with naturalistic counterparts. *Candid Camera*, which dominated the airwaves earlier than *Cops*, showcased ordinary people being pranked and their reactions were televised.

Rooting reality up

Reality television has come a long way from its "candid" and "car-chasing" roots.

The book *Reality TV: Remaking Television Culture* lists seven subgenres under the reality belt.

One is the documentary-style reality, where the cameras merely follow the usual activities of people involved. Shows like MTV's *Laguna Beach: The Real Orange County*, *The Newlyweds*, *The Osbournes*, *Simple Life*, and *Temptation Island* are some of the best examples in this area.

Game shows also have their entry in the reality show arena. In reality game shows, contestants are pitted against each other for a prize. The popular examples of this type of reality show

are *Survivor*, *Amazing Race*, and *Big Brother*, and the recently concluded *Extra Challenge*.

Other forms of reality game shows have also sprouted in the past few years. Romance-based shows such as *The Bachelor* and its female counterpart, *The Bachelorette*; job search shows like *Project Runway*, *The Apprentice*, and *May Trabaho Ka*; and sports-

Change is seemingly a current trend in the third world. With all those calls for "<incumbent president's name here> Resign!", cabinet shuffling, re-shuffling, and even more re-shuffling, add to that the most recent change among all changes—yes, charter change—Filipino television is changing tides.

related shows like *Ultimate Fighting Championship* and *The Contender*, were fruits of the said subgenre.

Self-improvement and makeover shows have also created a great buzz in the reality show scene. *Queer Eye for a Straight Guy* for instance involves (obviously) a straight guy's lifestyle being made over by five gay men. *The Swan* and *Extreme Makeover*, on the other hand, tackle a person's physical appearance.

Dating shows like *Eliminate*, *The Fifth Wheel*, and *Blind Date* incorporate the dating scene with the reality perspective usually by involving competition for a single date. Earlier versions of these shows include the 60's *The Dating Game* and 90's MTV's *Singled Out*.

Reality talk shows in the U.S. such as *The Jerry Springer Show* and *The Jenny Jones Show*, as well as our own failed take in the said subgenre, *Direksabon* (which lasted only for two seasons or 26 episodes), transformed the conventional talk show format to the reality type by adding human tension or drama.

Another take on reality television is the hidden camera format. Here, unknowing passersby become entangled in staged situations which are filmed, of course, by hidden cameras. MTV's *Punk'd* is a modern example of this, originating from *Candid Camera*. The Philippines has incorporated this format in shows such as *Bitoy's Funniest Home Videos*, *Wow Mali*, and

the *Punk'd*-spinoff *Victim*.

Last on the reality show type list is the hoax reality shows. Programs like *Joe Millionaire* and *My Big Fat Obnoxious Fiancé* give misleading information to the participants to add flare to the show.

Real, really?

Reality shows are often put on the hotseat as whether they are really depicting reality, though there are no solid proofs yet that these shows are just scripted.

However, reality shows are still steered and are usually made to have a flow. Post-production editing for instance can make real reality differ from television reality. Scenes are either rearranged or deleted to build a certain subplot or story line in the show. VH1's *Reality TV Secrets Revealed* aired that in *Survivor*, some scenes that were not recorded according to the required technical standard, or scenes that were not recorded at all are restaged and re-shot. Audio and video manipulation is also done to alter the flow of reality shows. Set designs, tasks, and competitions also

have big parts on the run of this type of show.

Reality's reality

But amid the controversies, reality shows are still heavily proliferating. For instance, *American Idol*'s fifth season finale has garnered over 60 million votes for the last two contestants. And *American Idol* and *Amazing Race* have just ended their fifth and ninth seasons respectively. The reality frenzy has even tapped the big screen, with some movie plots inspired by the reality genre. *Edtv* and *The Truman Show* both feature an ordinary man's life being aired 24/7 on the boob tube.

The television networks are not the only ones having the most gain from the current reality wave. Even the participants in these shows who were once ordinary people have now had their respective dubs on fame.

New shows with different twists are being offered on the American reality plate, such as *The Scholar*, which involves high school seniors vying for a full college scholarship, and *Beauty and the Geek*, wherein seven smart-ass guys and seven pretty girls are placed in one house for, as *Star World* says, a unique social experiment.

Even in the Philippines, television networks are recognizing the winning formulas in reality shows. The *Big Brother* franchise has been working well, especially for ABS-CBN. It has just successfully ended its third special edition and is on its way for a second season. The said network has recently launched *U Can Dance*, which carries a similar concept as Fox's *So You Think You Can Dance*. GMA's *Extra! Extra!* has shifted to a more reality perspective, though the show has ended

recently. ABC 5 has acquired an Idol franchise and, as of press time, is currently conducting auditions for *Philippine Idol*.

Ang ating realidad

However, reality television is still an experimental concept here in our country. Big television channels still bite on the soap hype, as seen in the torrent of soap operas against the trickle of reality shows. Filipinos are still on the side of scripted formats. For instance, ABS-CBN's *Star Circle Kid Quest* has been moved to a shorter, noontime space from its former primetime glory. And its teen counterpart, *Star Circle Quest* didn't have a third-season comeback to compete with GMA's *Starstruck* season three.

The network's primetime schedule features only one game show, and the rest are a hodgepodge of local and foreign soap operas. With the end of *Extra Challenge* (reportedly caused by the decline of its ratings due to soap operas of the other network giant), GMA's *Telebabad* now offers a pure line of soaps. And both television stations offer more doses of soap operas in the morning and in the afternoon. Some *asianovelas* that have garnered high ratings in their primetime slots even have reruns before noon.

So maybe it's not yet time to shelf those wet hankies or tissues. Reality TV in the Philippines still needs to look way up to soap operas. *Marami pa siyang kakainang bigas*. Or in this case, it still has more buckets of popcorn or bag of chips to consume. Soap operas are still the kings of the Pinoy TV hill.

And as it is, the usual Filipino couch kamote will still find soaps lathering prominently on their television screens.

Meme sa duwetong metaporikal

15—Ikalabing-limang siglo noon. Tanda ko ang pagkamangha sa kanilang mga mukha. Oo. Matangos ang kanilang ilong. May pagmamayabang sa kanilang mga bigote. Ang kasuotan nila ay nagsusumigaw. Tinipon nila kami. Marahil dahil na rin sa pagkabighani sa ganda ng kanilang mukha, nahimbing ng lubos ang aming paningin sa kanila. Dito nagsimula ang lahat.

1—Pero hindi ito agad nagtapos. Ang mga sumunod na pagtitipon ay naging mas mahigpit...mas marahas...mas maraming bagong patakaran. Ayos lang sa una. Pero kapag matagal ka nang nasakal, ikaw na rin mismo ang magpupumiglas. Oo. Nagpumiglas kami.

1—Pinakapitaganan siya sa suot niyang barong. Malinis, tamang-tama ang pag-

kakaplantsa, ang mga lupi at butones ay nasa ayos. Binuhat niya ang iyong ngalan. Iwinagayway ang iyong puri. Sinukat ang aming paniniwala. At kami nga ay nagtiwala.

13—May kung anong kamalasan daw ang numerong ito. Hindi ko alam. Ngunit marahil ito ay may katotohanan.

Nakita ang purple wristband niya. Nakakalat sa kuwarto. Mayroon pang pink, yellow green, orange, maroon, at kung anu-ano pang kulay. Nakita ko rin noon ang white barong niya. 'Di hamak na mas malaki ang size kaysa kay number 1.

Siya na nga marahil ang sumunod sa Mamang Nakatabako.

8—Ito ang simula ng panel interview. Nakakakaba. Hindi ko alam, pero nara-rat-

tle ang isip ko. Sh*t! Hindi ako makakapasa.

"Alam mo marunong ka eh, pero wala kang tiwala sa sarili mo."

9—Siyam na beses lang 'ata ang naging matinong punta ko sa opis. Kung hindi pa ako pinag-e-edit ng mga pinagtitiyagaan NA LANG na articles, wala akong balak pumunta.

Makailang beses na akong sinabihan at hinihikayat ng mga kaibigan at kaklase ko na "magpakita daw ako sa opis."

3—Pangatlong taon ko na ngayon sa HERALDO FILIPINO. At sa totoo lang, ngayon ko lang ito sineryoso. May pagka-playgirl pa ako dati. Niloloko ko lang ito, pinaglalaruan. Pero ngayon, seryoso na ang relasyon ko dito.

Hindi ko na marahil mabibilang pa ang aking mga realisasyon, mula sa pagsali

Manilyn M. Valdezco



METAPHORIC ANOREXIA

May pagka-playgirl pa ako dati. Niloloko ko lang ito, pinaglalaruan. Pero ngayon, seryoso na ang relasyon ko dito.

17—Alas-singko na, nasa labas pa rin kami. Naghihintay. Nagbabakasali sa kapang-

yarihan ng aming mga boses. Maraming tao. Masikip. Hindi na masyadong maganda ang amoy dahil sa tagal na naming nandoon.

Nakita ko rin ang placards, ang mga banners, at ang destinasyon ko. Sa EDSA. Buti na lang at hindi ako nagkamali. Hindi nga ba?

14—Nakapatong na ang kamay niya sa Bibliya. Sumasambit na ng mga katagang nagsasaad na tinatanggap na niya ang posisyong iniwan ni Mr. Suave.

Bakit nga ba siya pinalitan? Hindi na ba patok ang kanyang tagline? O dahil sa tanong doon sa isang babae na, "Kinain mo ba 'yung iced tea?"

Hindi ko na siya masyadong natanaw. Sabi lang sa akin, maliit daw siya, at kabaro ko. Oh my, this is something to be proud of, the feminist inside

me is like so pompuous now. Medyo maliit daw, maiksi ang buhok, at may prominenteng nunal sa mukha.

Si Pleshident Glo Corpus.

Hindi ko alam kung ano ang mangyayari. Patnugot na ako. Pihadong mas madaming 'hirap' ang maaari kong maranasan ngayon. Mas mahirap gumawa ng column kaysa sa gumawa ng artikulo ayon sa kagustuhan ng 'patnugot' at mahirap magprepara ng mga kailangan para sa isang seminar at contest. Mahirap. Mahirap. Lumalabas na naman ang pagiging pessimistic ko.

Jeez. I want to be as confident as Pleshident Glo.

Oops, biro lang. Pero paborito ko ang iced tea

E-mail the author at ayeenvaldezco@yahoo.com.

Unproductive

While memories twirl and palpitate
Livers holler, ulcers start to seep juice
What's death? What's life - that's the question
It's in alcohol, they become one.

Ilang gabi na rin akong pinapatay ng hinaggis ng aking trabaho. Ilang gabi na ring pinapatay ng alak ang sistema ko.

Sinira na rin ng korupsiyon ang sistema ng trabaho ko. Basta gobyerno, oo. Dyaskeng kurap, parte na talaga ng trabahong gobyerno. Isang officemate na gahaman, sumisipsip sa superior habang ginagatagan ang opisina. Magpasalamat ka, Hector, ako pa lang ang nakakahuli sa mga transaksyon mo.

Ako naman, ang tanging pangarap ko lang ay mairaos sila at mabigyan ng magandang buhay ang pamilya ko. Pero, pa'no kung nilulustay ng isang sakim ang perang sana'y para sa mga manggagawa? At pa'no ako makakatagal kung ang asawang inaasahan kong naririya'y nabusabos na ng maruruming salita ng iba?

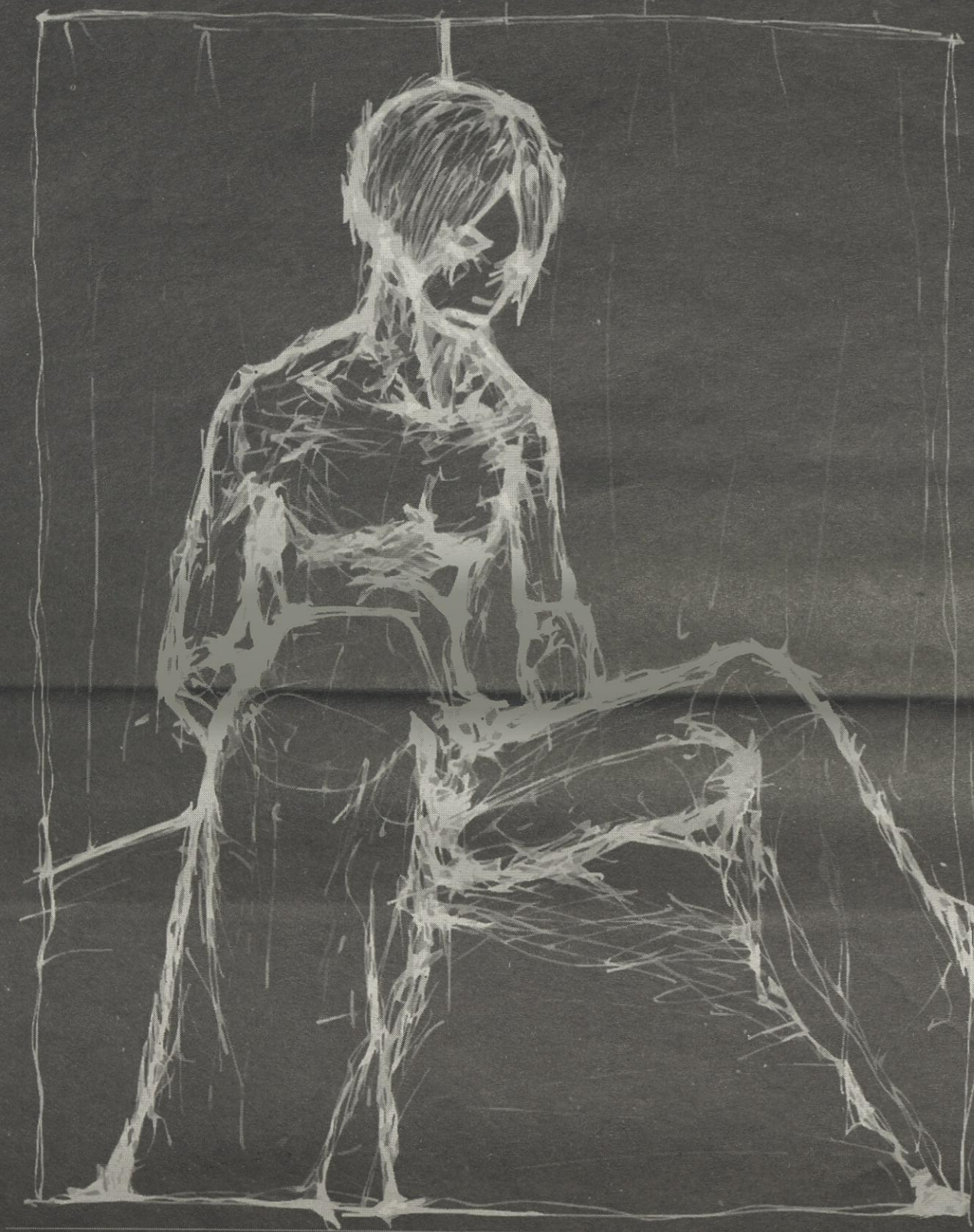
Malapit na 'kong mamatay. Nararamdaman ko na ang hilo at impit na pagsakit ng tiyan ko. Impit nga ba? O namamanhid na lang talaga ang sistema ko? Nanginginig na ang mga kalamnan ko at tila bumabaon na ang aking mga kuko sa kutson. Laway. Mamaya lang, bubula na ang aking bunganga at aapaw na ito.

At bakit ko nga ba tila ipinagmamayabang pa ang nangyayaring iro?

Masarap marinig. Masarap marinig ang dahan-dahanang pagbitaw ng hiram kong buhay sa akin. Buhay na tila hindi pinahalagahan ng iba. "OO, HINDI N'YO PINAHALAGAHAN ANG BUHAY KO." Ano kaya ang makukuha kong reaksiyon sa pagkawala ko na isang walang-kabuluhang tao? Isa nga ba itong walang-kabuluhang pagpanaw?

Maliwanag. Matindi. Nakakapaningkit ng mata. Langit? Ito ba ang langit ng hindi nakainom? Nakaputi naman ako—baka nga. "Nasa ospital ka, 'di sa langit. Naranasan mo na ang kalbaryo ng buhay mo. Ngayon, panahon na para hanapin at harapin mo naman ang langit."

TAPOS NA.



Ni Christina Logro

Isang lagok pagkatapos ng isang linga'y
Ewa't bakit ibibitin pa
Ha! At bakit ko nga ba ngayon lang napagtanto
Sa mga pildoras na 'to'y bababa pa ang kalbaryo ko.
Lumilipad ang aking utak, ilang saliw ng musika ang tumatak
Disco Inferno
Bagsak sa inumang makamundo
Kasama ang mga kaibigan—
Ah! Siyang langit ay s'ya ko ring impiyerno
Ang tagal ko na palang kinikiril yaring buhay na ito
Hamo't liparin ako sa aking mga dalahin—ay, kalimutan na!
Kaya nga ako nagpapakamatay upang maibon na
Ngayon tuloy, 'pinaaalala pa
At beto't bakit nga kasi pildoras
Kung sa Downy lang, buhay ay agad nalpas.

Mamatatay na ako. Ilang araw na ring nasa likod 'yan ng aking mga naiisip—may tumutulak sa akin at umuudyok; may kung anong puwersa ring pilit na nagpapakalimot. Pero hindi ko na kaya ang mga pagbigat ng buhay—doon na lang umiikot ang mundo ko. Wala nang pag-ibig, wala nang landas, wala nang pag-asa. Ilang araw na akong nagigising sa pagkirot ng aking bumbunan—ubod ng sakit, pero, para ano pa? Para ano pa ang pag-angal kung wala namang makikinig at magbibigay ng lunas sa kirot na ito? Bawat araw, tumitingala na lang ako hanggang sa mawala ang sakit. Tumitingala na para bang ang sagot sa aking mga problema'y nasa kisame ng bahay na ito.

'Yun nga kaya ang naiisip ko, o sadyang nakatingala lang ako sa kawalan? Dahil ba alam kong umabot na ako sa kawalan—kawalan ng solusyon, lunas, at kinabukasan?

Alaala noong ika'y kapiling
Dito sa pagitan ng apat na dingding
Malayo sa ulan, araw, at bangin
Kawdili ng nagmamahalang damdamin

Nguni't nabuwag yaring dingding
At kinuha ka sa akin
Ngayo'y hindi na ating dingding kung ituring
Kundi hangganang nakaririmarim

Apat na dingding na pumapaloob sa 'kin
Simbolo ng katapusang malagim
Nasa'n ka na kaya sa likod ng mga dingding
Yaring sagot kaya'y sadya kong gugustuhin?

Ngunit may sandaling nagbabago ang dingding
'Pinipikit yaring mata't ninanammam ng mga daliri
Dahil sa kabila ng lamig nitong batong dingding
Init nating 'pinaglalaruan'y nagkakatapat pa rin.

Ilang araw na rin pala ako sa salang ito, sa loob ng bahay na ito. Ilang araw at gabing 'pinananatili ang sanidad sa apat na pader na ito. Mahirap nang lumabas, baka masiraan lang ako ng ulo. Dito sa loob—mag-isa—napapanatili ko pa ang katinuan ko.

Kinuha ng mga intriga ang asawa ko. Binulabog ang buhay naming mag-asawa. Mga tsismosang hindi matapus-tapos ang pagkuwestiyon sa desisyon naming 'wag munang magkaanak. Kesyo ang pag-uwi ko raw nang gabi'y dapat pagdudahan.

Eh 'di kayo! Gumawa kayo ng anak kung gusto n'yo! Gusto n'yong makitang buntis ang asawa ko, para pagbentahan ng mga kung anu-anong paninda ninyo! Sinong niloko n'yo!

Lintik kayo! Sinira n'yo ang pamilya ko. Sinira n'yo ang buhay ko. Iniwan ako ng misis ko nang dahil sa inyo.

"Johnny, matagal nang sira ang buhay mo! Tekla nga, bakit nga ba gabing-gabi ka na kung makuawi?"

Flamboyant flavors in fluorescent flasks
Dance like flamingoes in the air
Whenever wineglasses are raised
"Toast!"

Boys become ripe and tender
All suddenly acting like men
Swallow bittersweet in one gulp
Then sudden spirit of heaven gets in

Colors, smoke, and a feeling of being doped
In waves of various hues transcend
Where's tension? How's libido?
Only surreal memories and faces are left
They decorate my once-suppressed fancy

Ni Manilyn Valdezco

Oras na para sa panggabi kong ritwal.

Tanaw ko na siya, medyo side-view nga láng. Nakaharap kasi siya sa kompyuter niya. Malamang ka-chat na naman niya ang lalaking 'yon.

Ramdam ko ang panlalainig ng aking kamay at paa. Number one lang naman ang bentilador. Selos na ba itong mata-tawag? Bakit ba kasi kailangan pa niyang kausapin ang lalaking iyon? Naudito naman ako.

"Kung titingin ka lang sa harap ng bahay mo, mapapansin mo 'ko."

Hay, sa wakas, pinatay na niya ang kompyuter. Tek! Nakasimangot na naman siya. Pesteng yawa! Malamang nag-away na naman sila.

Unti-unti ng pumatak ang pawis mula sa noo ko. Pinag-pawisan na rin pati ang ilong ko.

"Pag nakita ko 'yung lalaki, mananagot 'yun sa akin."

Buti naman at papunta na siya sa kama. Ganda ng anggulo na kita ko. Kitang-kita ko ang pagdampi ng kanyang puwitan sa malambot na kurtson.

"Hay... Sige, matulog ka na. Tama 'yan, kunin mo na ang mamahalin mong kumot. 'Wag kang mag-alala, walang kaso sa akin kung makikipag-niig ka na sa malambot mong kama. Ilapat mo na ang iyong ulo sa unan..."

Hindi na makita ang kanyang mukha, pero aninag ko pa rin ang hulma ng kanyang katawan sa pagkakabalot sa kumot.

Pucha! Naapektuban na 'ata ako. Nanginginig na ako. Hindi ko na maitago ang pagkakulong ng aking paningin sa kanya...sa kanyang katawan.

"Tama 'yan, kung ano man ang problema mo, hayaan mo ng liparin iyon ng iyong panaginip."

"Oh my love, forever and ever my heart..."

Paborito ko talaga ang bagong awitin ni Jessa Zambales. Pambihira. Kakaiba ang iniwang tatak sa aking isipan. Daig pa ang *last song syndrome* kung tawagin dahil hindi lamang ako *hooked* sa tunog nito, may kung anong gayuma ito sa akin.

"Good morning, my princess."

p*****, nakaalis na siya. Sarado na ang bintana ng kanyang kuwarto.

Ano nga ba ang gagawin ko ngayon? Ah, oo, Lunes nga pala...maliligo na'ko.

SA ESKUWELA

"Uy, Mang Bongsky, 'musta na?"

Masaya? Ako? Oo naman. Palagi naman 'di ba?"

Anong hindi?"

Ah...nung isang araw...

Ano bang nangyari noong isang araw? Ah, oo...yun yung araw na nakita ko siya na may kasamang lalaki.

Isang lalaking daig pa ang mga *matinee idols* na sina Boy-ong Marasigan, Ricardo Guisado, at Sammy Milihan.

Matikas.

Maganda manamit. Ayos. Pambihira.

Hawak ko ang *brown envelope* ko noon. Halos mapunit na nga dahil sa higpit ng pagkakahawak ng namamawis kong kamay.

Teka, totoo ba itong nakikita ko? Siya nga...

Saan kaya ang punta nila?

NO P.D.A. SILENCE PLEASE.

Saan ba talaga sila punta?"

Isa.

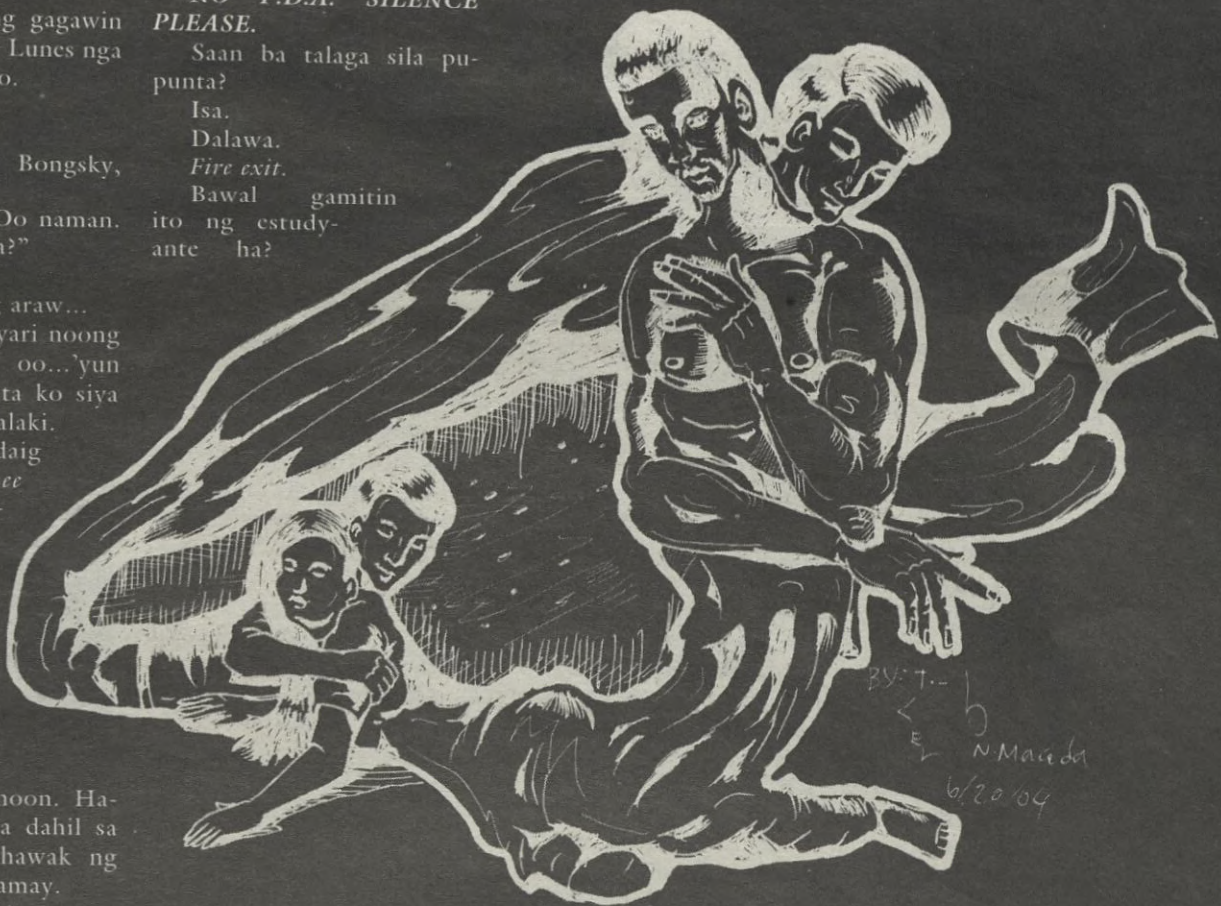
Dalawa.

Fire exit.

Bawal gamitin

ito ng estudy-

ante ha?"



Dibuho ni Vicbert Maceda

Teka...ano na?"

Hindi ko na 'ata kakayarin pa ito. Hindi ko na mapipigil-an.

Hindi ako makapaniwala sa nakita ko kanina. Oo. Hindi na kami bata. Subalit hindi pa rin 'ata nararapat na gawin nila 'yun.

Nakaharap ako ngayon sa salamin. Imbes na gawin ko ang panggabi kong ritwal. Tatal, nasaksihan ko naman ang pagpasok ng lalaking iyon sa pintuan nila, at sa pagbukas niya ng ilaw sa kanyang silid, tanaw ang kanilang anino.

Nagbabadya ng panakit.

Bakit ba ako ganito kaapektado? Bakit tila wala nang gamot sa nararamdaman ko? Natural lang ba ito, o iniisip ko lang 'yon para maging okay ako? Ah, sh*t! Hindi ko na maintindihan.

Basta ang alam ko lang... gusto ko siyang pagmasdan, ang maganda niyang katawan habang siya'y nakasuot ng manipis niyang pantulog. Masarap isipin na mapapasaakin ang mala-porselana niyang kutis, ang kamay niyang parang kandila na walang habas na pinaglalaruan ng lalaking iyon.

At...ang lalaking iyon... Nagagalit ako sa kanya dahil hindi niya ako napapansin. Hindi niya napapansin na nagseselos ako.

Haay. Minsan naisipan ko na ring magbago. Makailang beses na ring pumasok sa isip ko na subukang agawin siya.

Mag-abit ng bigote. Magpababa ng buhok. At magsuot ng pambabae.

"Inggit ba ito? Haay. Diyos kong mahabagin...alam kong nangangarap lang ako."

Minsan, may isang

FROM THE COMMUNITY

Sentimentally Operational Naive Gratifying Stimulus

By Bernard F. Esternon

If life to most (me included) is meaningless without music and music is made more meaningless by the lyrics, then songs are definitely vital components of life, a stimulant to our sleeping faculty.

For emotional persons songs often touch their sensitivities, sometimes so deep that it would take time for them to realize that they still have a life to live (*Life goes on, and its only gonna make me strong...* - "Life Goes On" by Leann Rimes).

But we do encounter challenges or we feel that we're

being hounded by trials (*Sa'n sa'n nadadapa, sa'n sa'n nababangga...* - "Hari ng Sablay" by Sugarfree). And it seems that destiny is inevitable.

We started to blame somebody, then ended up with nobody but ourselves. Seemingly unanswerable queries kept bumping inside our heads, and even in our sleep, we would like to end it all with a thunderous "aahh!" (*I just wanna scream, how could this happen to me...* - "Untitled" by Simple Plan).

Then, an unwanted hero appears to save us from our miseries, but we are now living in a highly commercialized

world, where less are given free (*Ngunit pagkatapos ay bigla kang sisingilin...* - "Mang Jose" by Parokya ni Edgar).

To some, a moment of security is far better than the past days of uncertainty, they will cherish even the shortest moment with a hero (*I'm gonna take this moment, make it last forever...* - "Evergreen" by Westlife), a moment where tears and fears may be gone (*When you cried, I'd wipe away all of your tears, when you scream, I'd fight away all of your fears...* - "My Immortal" by Evanescence).

To those who are in love, songs are naïve stimulants, al-

though it depends on the personality of the person. Some find a way to relate themselves whenever their auditory nerves are tickled by the melodies (*Pag-ibig na palaisipan, sa kanta na lang dinadaan...* - "Narda" by Kamikazee).

To others who tend to be misers, love is an elusive topping to complete an emotional salad (*Where is the love...* - "Where is the Love" by Black Eyed Peas), where finding a person to share even the nothings seems to be a very long, endless, and loving highway. And you are left alone and lonely (*Nobody likes you, everyone left you, they're all*

out without you, having fun... - "Nobody likes you" by Greenday).

Help seems to be nowhere. Especially, when you're hesitant to seek advice (*If I should falter, would you open your arms to me...* - "A Little Respect" by Wheatus).

Or maybe you just can't comprehend that what you have thought is not really what it is (*My head speaks a language, I don't understand...* - "Feel" by Robbie Williams).

Hey, more problems might come into our lives, but avoidance is not the better option (*Tomorrow's getting harder, make no mistake, luck ain't*

even lucky, got to make your own break... - "Its My Life" by Bon Jovi).

Go! Never mind the barricades (*Huwag nang iisipin, ang barang sa atin...* - "Kahit Pa" by Hale).

You still have your own space after all (*Doesn't matter if I'm made alone, I got a place I call my own...* - "24hours" by Cueshe).

And when you make your first move, hold your head up high... ("High" by The Speaks).

Mr. Esternon is a faculty from the Social Sciences Department.

R-GEN & FROM THE COMMUNITY

Ang Literary Section ng HERALDO FILIPINO ay tumatanggap ng mga malikhaing sulatin na maaaring ilathala sa pahinang ito. Ang R-Gen ay para sa mga mag-aaral, at ang From the Community ay para sa iba pang kasapi ng pamayanang Lasalyano, tulad ng mga guro at administrador. Maaari ninyong ipasa ang inyong mga tula, maikling kuwento, at sanaysay sa aming opisina (GMH 213). Para sa katanungan, magsadya lamang sa aming opisina, mag-text sa numerong ito: +63 921 246 4557, o mag-e-mail sa heraldofilipino@yahoo.com.

Inaasahan namin ang inyong mga likha at kontribusyon. Maraming salamat.



New football club at DLSU-D

By James Michael Chiong

DLSU-D will again see balls kicked around the soccer field, with the newly formed La Salle-Dasmariñas Football Club (LSDFC).

Jeffrey dela Cruz led the formation of the soccer club along with Mike Tulang and Kenneth Acuña, all former Philippine Christian University-Dasmariñas (PCU-D) booters.

"Naisip ko na magtayo ng football club dito (DLSU-D) after ako in-invite ng mga former players din ng PCU-D na maglaro sa friendly game nila (in Dasmariñas)," dela Cruz said.

Since then, according to dela Cruz, External Sports Activities Coordinator Nestor de Quiroz said the team should also have a women's division, so they conducted try-outs for

the women's team.

The male booters are under Coach Danny Aruta's helm. Dela Cruz asked Aruta, a former PCU-D coach and a FIFA international referee, to train the team. "Noong plinano namin yung club, siya 'yung kinontact namin dahil wala [na] naman siyang ginagawa n'un," dela Cruz said.

According to the male booters, their budget allocation goes to the coaching fees. "Kapag may meeting, training, at game na [mag]lalaro kami (men's and women's teams), may bayad siya," said Acuña, now president of LSDFC. Transportation fees for their games would require collection from the members.

Although they are allowed to use the football field and balls that are provided by the University, Acuña and dela

Cruz said uniforms should also be provided to them. "Kabit 'yung pantaas lang kasi wala kaming uniform na ginagamit kapag may laro," dela Cruz said.

The LSDFC is currently looking for different tournaments to participate in. The male booters have competed in the Ateneo Football Festival, an open division competition wherein different teams of varied age groups are pitted against each other.

The lady booters have recently won third place in the Milo First Touch Football Tournament. They last won against Rizal Technological University, outlasting the latter by one point in a penalty shootout. However, they lost to the Laguna Football Club and eliminated the LSDFC lady booters.



The Patriots booters

Photo by Mark Sherwin Maestro

■ SPORTS FEATURE ■

HOLLYWOOD IN JERSEY

By Christine Weizel Gulfan

It is evident that a physique like Adonis doesn't define a good sportsman in the very least; but who said the Olympic battle is all about skill anyway?

A visage of a Hollywood superstar may give players

the strict world of business by establishing So Natural Foods Australia. Thorpe had also recently rubbed shoulders with "The Greatest," Mohammed Ali, along with other sports superstars like Olympic Sprint Champion Maurice Greene, running

In an interview in the *Sunday Telegraph*, he confessed that he, along with his fellow swimmers, trains endlessly and are only given an annual month off. The *Sunday Telegraph* quoted him saying, "At certain times I think we are swimming too much, the swimming

celebrities, the former Real Madrid captain has to endure a lot to keep up with his fans' expectations. Being English doesn't help either, especially when Brits are known to be one of the most demanding people in the world. During his time as a Manchester United captain, England lost to Portugal in Euro 2000. English fans taunted Beckham by chanting, "We hope your kid dies of cancer!" in which he responded to giving them the middle finger.

A series of hate campaigns followed until a time when Britain's football captain was able to redeem himself by ensuring England's qualification for the finals of World Cup 2000. The event turned him from a villain to an instant hero, winning himself the BBC's Sports Personality of the Year award. What followed after is a whirlwind of ups and downs that eventually earned him the prestigious Champions League Cup among other recognitions (not to mention red and yellow penalty cards).

Like any other sports hero, Beckham got numerous endorsements from major companies. According to an issue of *Manila Bulletin* a year ago, what made him stand out from his fellow celebrity athletes is when he was unofficially named as the metrosexual icon recognized by the mother of the English empire herself, Queen Elizabeth II.

With all this in Beckham's palms, it seems that he is being treated as a king compared to the rest of his teammates. However, no such thing took place since even at the peak of his fame, the British pride did not experi-

ence any special treatment as an athlete. In fact, the fame only contributed to the severity of his punishments everytime he would make an error that other players could've gotten away from.

In 2000, when he was still leading Manchester United, Team Manager Alex Ferguson fined his number one player two weeks' wages (the maximum penalty) for missing practice. Beckham's absence had been permitted at first due to his son Brooklyn's illness. However, the photograph of his wife, former Posh Spice Victoria Adams, on the same night in the London Fashion Week infuriated Ferguson so much, he reprimanded the prized player. This was because Ferguson realized that had Posh Spice remained at home to care for their son instead, her husband wouldn't have to miss the practice.

During his infamy, Beckham has been repeatedly defended from the sports harsh environment by Ferguson. The latter refused to give up the aspiring prodigy despite the massive pressure from big time critics to sell him off to other teams. The relationship between the two deteriorated when the Beckham fever struck England, thus competing with the lad's commitment. A violent incident, as stated in *AskMen.com*, proved fatal to Manchester United when Beckham received a football-boot kick on the eye from Ferguson in the changing room, after the team lost to Arsenal. The cut inflicted by the assault required five stitches to heal. Shortly after, Beckham signed a contract worth 41 million pounds with Real Madrid. The said team is home to Soccer King Ronaldo (who was also offered the same

amount to join) along with other geniuses like Zinedine Zidane and Luis Figo.

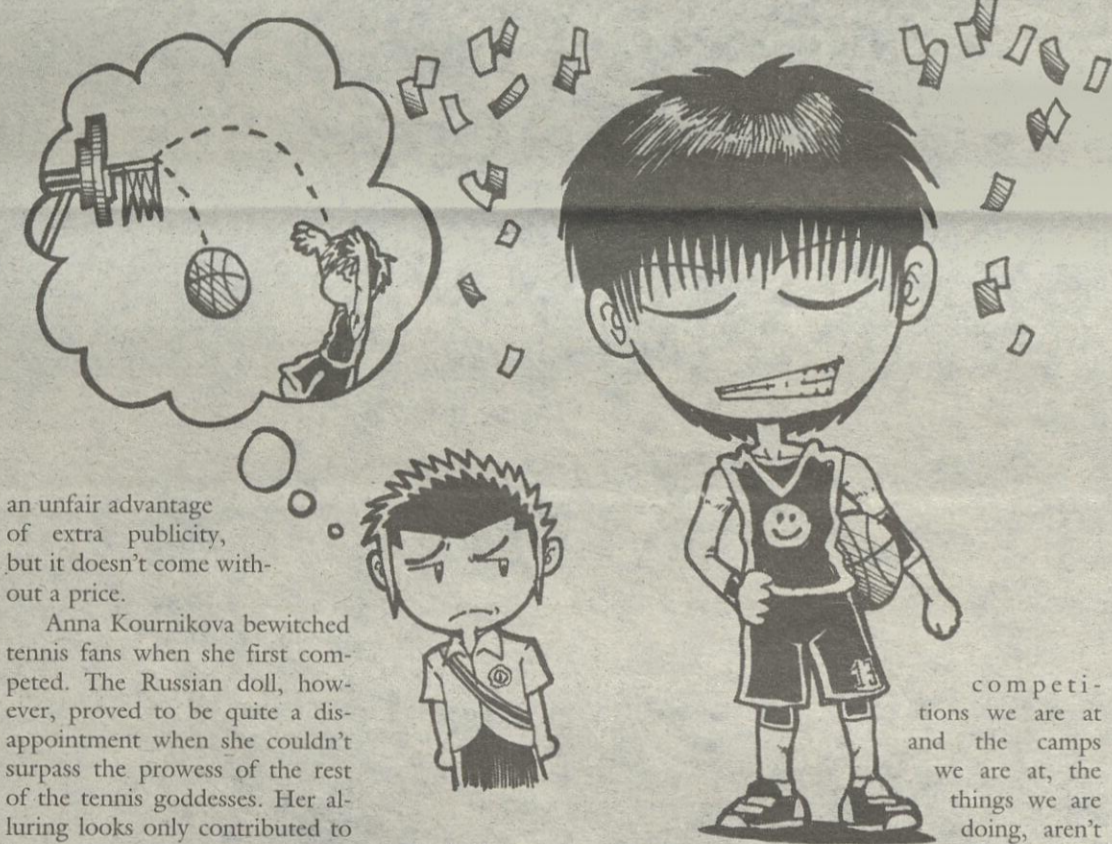
Beckham may not be as skilled as Ronaldo, as the latter has been deemed the best in the world. The English sensation, on the other hand, proved to be an indispensable asset for his marketability. Real Madrid accumulated 160 million euros for selling shirts with Beckham's team number during his recent migration to the team.

The X-Factor

You may think that an exquisite exterior offers no consolation to the sport itself, but if you consider the billions of dollars these athletes contribute for their numerous endorsements, its safe to say that they supply a fine percentage of the sports world income. Besides, sports celebrities reach out to people more thoroughly than other sports geniuses. Their charisma enchants not only the sports enthusiasts but piques the interest of a sports bimbo too. But without a real skill to boot, their facade, no matter how stunning—would be worthless.

Those who are blessed with Aphrodite's gift are given a brighter share from the limelight. But just because stardom's glitter offers them multiple press coverage, it doesn't mean they get to live in nirvana. Fame has a price, being famous is a job and it's even more difficult to keep it.

What is the common denominator of a sports celebrity, a prodigy, and a regular member? The key word is DETERMINATION. Excellence is neither about good looks, nor raw talent. It is about hard work and perseverance in which very few have the patience and humility to excel.



an unfair advantage of extra publicity, but it doesn't come without a price.

Anna Kournikova bewitched tennis fans when she first competed. The Russian doll, however, proved to be quite a disappointment when she couldn't surpass the prowess of the rest of the tennis goddesses. Her alluring looks only contributed to her early resignation from the sport, as she was disillusioned by waves of criticism and verbal offenses, such as being better suited to pose for a magazine cover than to play professional tennis, seeing as she was chosen to be *FHM*'s sexiest woman for 2003 along with her starring role in one of Enrique Iglesias's music videos.

Had Kournikova looked average, she would have passed as just another aspiring athlete striving to be the best. The fact that she captivated the audience proved fatal as it only roused unnecessary expectations that she couldn't live up to.

When Maria Sharapova entered the picture, she was expected to share the same fate as Kournikova. The pretty teenager petrified her critics at the 2004 Wimbledon, after her deadly backhand caused the downfall of Serena Williams in a singles championship game. The "Siberian Siren" has since then joined the league of high caliber tennis players. *Forbes* magazine called the tennis queen "the richest female athlete in the world." With more than \$10 million in her account, she was said to have donated enough money to buy a Porsche for the hostage victims of a Russian school incursion.

Ian Thorpe is currently Australia's most celebrated athlete, with a terrain of endorsements including his own clothing line called Thorpedo, along with fashionable pearl accessories and swimming apparel, plus his very own underwear summer collection. He even ventured in

legend Haile Gebrselassie, soccer stars Zinedine Zidane and David Beckham, NBA superstar Tracy McGrady, and Ali's daughter Laila, herself a world champion boxer, in a new Adidas campaign—the desire to push yourself further, to surpass limits, to break new ground, summarized by the statement, "Impossible is nothing."

During the earlier stages of his career, no one expected "The Thorpedo" to rival fellow Australian Grant Hackett, as his body frame was said to be unsuitable to that of a swimmer. During the World Championships at Perth, Australia's youngest swimmer proved them wrong after he out-touched Hackett in the 400-meter-freestyle. The swimming torpedo has dominated the waters ever since claiming the Olympic throne, the World record along with several golds in the same category, his forte—the freestyle competition. With his career skyrocketing as it is, Thorpe had also parted his blessings with the less privileged by founding the Fountain of Youth, a non-profit organization created to give medical services among his fellow youth and has taken it upon himself to raise awareness to his fellow Australians, the aborigines. "If anybody's going to be able to make a difference, it's certainly sports people," says Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) Chair, Lowitja O'Donoghue.

The triple Olympic medalist cited his frustration over Australia's swimming program since they were being over-worked,

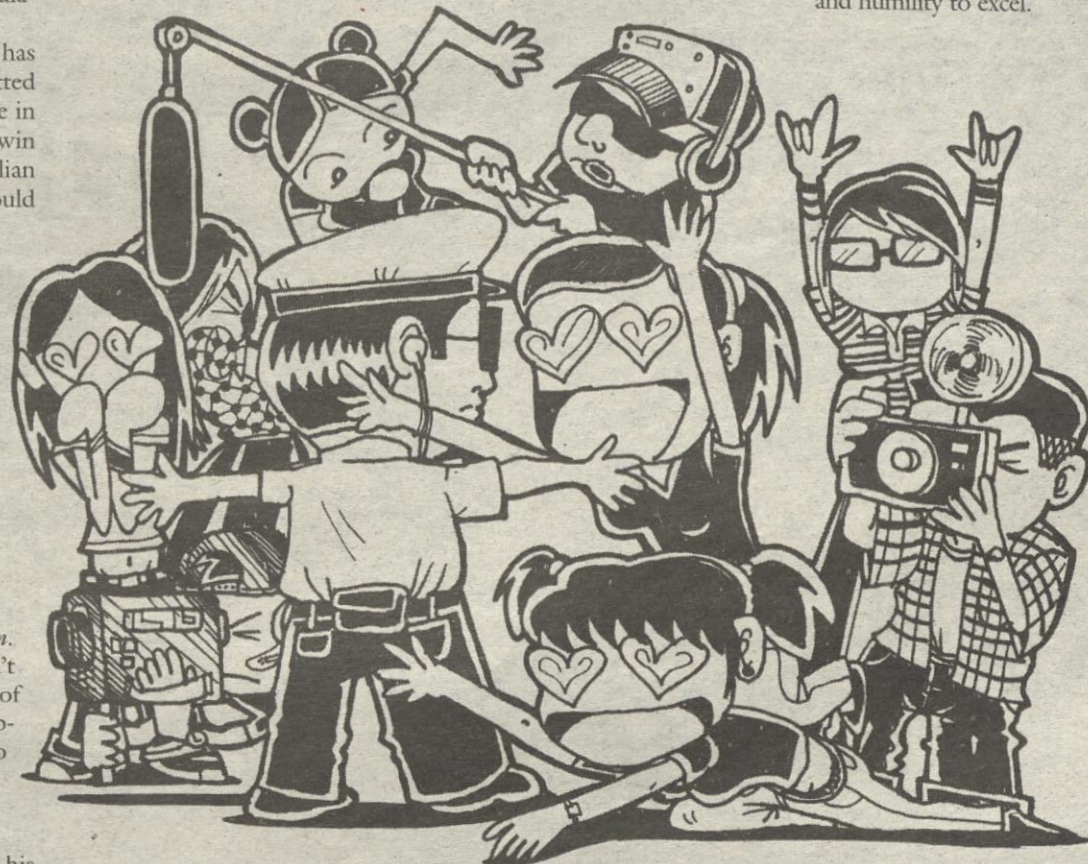
competitions we are at and the camps we are at, the things we are doing, aren't all that beneficial to our

training. They are going to get fatigued and not going to have a chance to recover. They are going to get sick and they are going to get injuries," said the swimming ace. The strain of fatigue made Thorpe compete at the recent Australian titles with viral encephalitis, and the illness prevented him from competing in the one-day Duel in the Pool against the Americans in Indianapolis in April.

Thorpe's celebrity status has also taken its toll; he admitted that every time he takes a dive in a race, people expect him to win a championship. The Australian Dolphin's trump card would choose to feign a deaf ear to tabloid criticisms and public disappointments every time he doesn't meet their expectations although he admits that such comments could never be avoided.

Thorpe attributes his success to hard work, commitment, and love for the game and has no fear of giving away his craft's secrets.

England's crowned soccer prince, David Beckham, as stated in the website *AskMen.com*, sometimes wishes he isn't so famous. The adoration of his fans brings him extra publicity, but his popularity also brought him a lot of critics. He was recently traumatized when there were attempts to kidnap his son and burn his residence. Plus, his Ferrari had been rigged. Since he is currently one of the most popular sports



Illustrations by Daryll Dale de Silva

Small potatoes

When I was about to enter the room wherein a panel was to interrogate me about my intentions for joining the HERALDO FILIPINO, I was looking forward to becoming the Sports Editor. But to tell the panel that I intend to be an editor would make them think I was over-confident. It could even jeopardize my chances of entering the publication. I had to show that I am sincere in working for the publication, which I really am. I had hoped to become the Sports Editor. But I never expected that I would become one.

I always thought that being an editor was small potatoes. During my two-year editorship in our high school publication, I had to write most of the articles to fill up the three pages allotted for the sports section. During those times I didn't take the job seriously for there were no grave consequences for errors. If we commit mistakes we would get scolded,

but that's it.

Then I had a big realization. After some time working in HF, I began to see the implications of student service. What I did not take seriously during my high school years as a student journalist I did now, for we had to abide by a stricter set of rules and regulations, both written and unwritten.

Now that I have achieved what I hoped to be, I have to face tougher challenges. Indeed, student service comes with a high price. Sometimes efforts go unrewarded but that is the essence of working for the students. A servant should not aim for recognition if he is to serve the people. If he does, he becomes one of those politicians that we have today who squander the people's money.

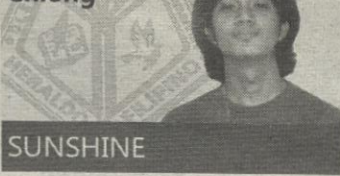
Reading the "Atrophy" article in the second issue of *Just Play*, I would rather hope to see the Patriots' upward performance in the years to come

than predict an inevitable downfall of the athletic teams. What follows is my pre-season analysis for the Patriots teams.

The Patriots male spikers' roster is still intact, with only Christopher Quine leaving the team. The team's reserves seem ready for more playing time with their exposure in the PRISAA-Nationals and the NCRAA championships, as well as their failed campaign during the UNIGAMES in Bacolod.

If they can train their two recruits well enough to suffice the needs of the team, the Patriots volleyballers will make another PRISAA-Nationals stint. Their performance last year in the Nationals makes me think that regaining another PRISAA-Nationals crown is possible. They placed third in the tourney last year, and that was when the legendary Legaspi sisters were still on the team. When the Legaspi sisters graduated, they left the team

James Michael A. Chiong



SUNSHINE

This sprouted out of my reflections and the problems that friends tell me.

with a couple of strong spikers short. Still, nothing is lost in keeping your fingers crossed, right?

The cagers and cagebells should maintain the stellar performances they had last season. A friend in the cage team told me that a couple of six-footer forwards would come to boost the team. If this is so, then the male ballers will be more creative in their penetration tactics, although a lot of veteran cagers have graduated and expired their contracts in the ball

clubs.

I also think that we will see a better performance from the Patriots cagebells this year. Placing fourth in the PRISAA-Nationals last year should keep them training for better results. However, they did not face their Laguna rivals in the PRISAA-Regionals stint last year, and this gave them an easy ticket to the Nationals. Will the University of Perpetual Help-General Mariano Alvarez cagebells keep the Patriots from advancing into the Nationals this year? We will see.

In taekwondo, if Randy Reyes had not missed last year's stint, he may have won medals in the Nationals. We are safe to expect a big comeback from the taek jins this year.

The Patriots male paddlers have suffered a dismal setback this year that prevented them from going to the Nationals. Dino Jose and Paolo Lagos' skills could have been a big help to the CALABARZON

male paddlers. The lady table-tennetters have surpassed their counterparts' performance in the Regionals stint, but they should improve their game to win another PRISAA-Regionals crown.

Thus, my column is named *Sunshine*. Optimistically, this sprouted out of my reflections and the problems that friends tell me. Also, the Brit-rock-techno-ish band Keane has a song entitled *Sunshine*. The song offers a sweet but dark touch to the broken soul, as their music revolves on their negative reflections on the society and on love.

Don't be a passive student and write something. If there are any violent reactions or inquiries: travis27@gmail.com. Also, you might be the potential Sports writer that HF is looking for. If so, then proceed to our office immediately and submit your application form.

■ SPORTS FEATURE ■

The Heraldho Filipino SPORTS Yearend Awards

By HERALDO FILIPINO Sports Section

Editor's note: The period covered by this awards article is from the HERALDO FILIPINO volume XX, issues one to six. And we wouldn't let the Patriots' feats pass us by unacknowledged.

Team of the Year

If the word "success" has a Wikipedia entry, the Patriot spikers could even have a picture with it.

Crunch on these numbers—Three championships the past school year. Individual awards won here and there. They also successfully defended

their PRISAA-Nationals and Universities and Colleges Athletic Association (UCAA) titles and for the third year running, are again on top of the NCRAA. If that isn't what you call domination, we don't know what that is. What makes this year's victories worth pointing out is that they did it with little guidance from August Santamaria, former DLSU-D volleyball coach.

This is why for the second year running they are the team to beat in

every tournament they join in.

Coach of the Year

What is a good coach? Is it the one who achieves what is asked of him, or is it the one that works with little material and still delivers and, in some occasions, even surpass expectations?

Two names come into mind. One is women's basketball mentor Maynard Ballecer, who got special mention after leading the Patriots cagebells to their first ever PRISAA-Nationals appearance last February, and led the Patriots to a historical overtime victory against rival Polytechnic University of the Philippines right in their homecourt during the NCRAA.

The other one—the coach that stood out this past school year—is taekwondo guru Rolando Futalan. Working silently in the background, he has produced numerous blackbelts without much fanfare year in and year out.

Futalan has fine-tuned the raw skills of Din Rose Aquino and other blackbelts that came into the Patriots jins roster last year. But here's the kicker, pardon the pun. Futalan was able to send a froshie redbelt into the National PRISAA.

So what's the mojo in his dojo? Dedication, and perhaps passion as well. With little work on, the brash but approachable taek coach has produced something.

Athlete of the Year

One word sums up why Conception "Con-Con" Legaspi is hailed as this year's best athlete—V-League.

No other Patriot in the volleyball team has ever reached the pinnacle of Philippine commercial volleyball. Plus the fact that this is her last year of suiting up the green-and-white jersey, this would be a nice sendoff for an athlete that gave much honor for DLSU-D.

Winning numerous individual awards in



Year-end awardees. Christine Enuslay (left) and Coach Rolando "Ding" Futalan (right)
Photo by Jan Richardson Dizon

various tournaments, Legaspi, along with sister Melissa, has been instrumental in giving the Patriots volleyballers a title run that started in the 2003 NCRAA and was just broken when they fell short in the recent UNIGAMES in Bacolod. As a parting gift to the institution that helped her become what she is now, Concon and her teammates won yet another NCRAA crown.

"Con-gratulations," may you do well in whatever lies ahead.

Rookies of the Year

In a year that was lean on fresh meat—we mean talent—what could be the barometer to determine who stood out among the greenhorns? Why not the ones who made it into the main event in their first try, the PRISAA-Nationals?

With the bittersweet year the DLSU-D chess team had, it was a pleasant surprise that Christopher John "CJ" Enobal made it into the CALABAR-

ZON contingent after winning Board 4 in the PRISAA-Regionals.

Board 4? But isn't that the board where the team usually places its worst player?

Not exactly. There are instances where coaches opt to place their top dog in the last board for a sure victory. Nevertheless, in normal situations, Board 4 is important especially in close games where every victory counts or they serve as fallback when the higher boards falter against tougher opponents. Nevertheless, Enobal is this year's male rookie of the year.

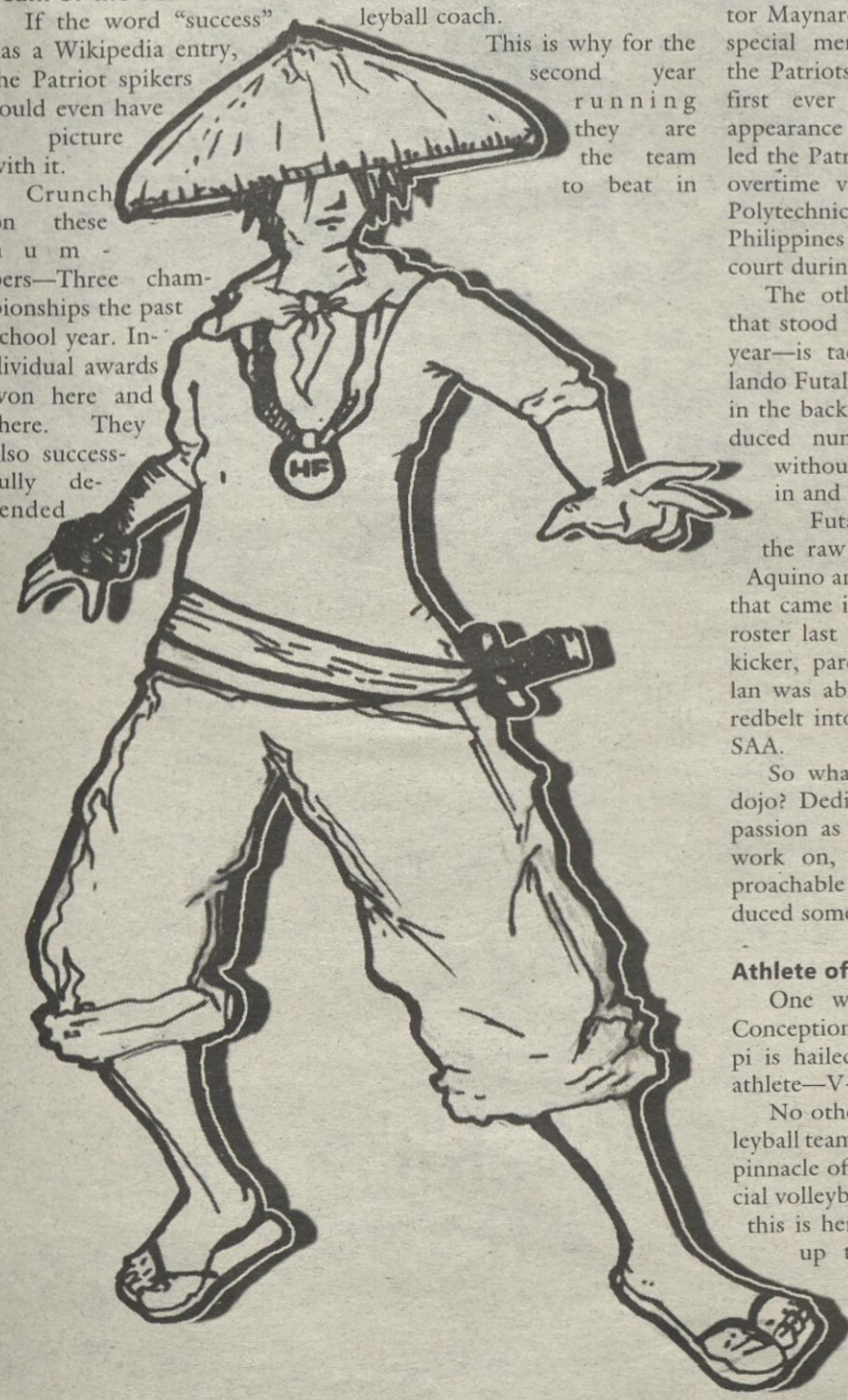
After the previous year's windfall of snagging hotshot blackbelts from Silang, this year's bunch of DLSU-D neophyte jins weren't much looked up to. So who would have assumed that a rookie redbelt from Negros Occidental would make it to the big dance?

Lasallians, meet Christine Enuslay, the new taekwondo sensation and the female rookie

of the year awardee. At first glance, who would have thought that she could kick against the best of them? Small, modest, and with a pleasant disposition, the now Political Science sophomore defied odds while her teammates fell like flies in the Regionals. Other than that, she won a gold medal in the National Interscholar Competition, a yearly tournament in the Philippine Taekwondo Association calendar.

Entering college with a low blue belt, Enuslay has been promoted twice ever since and has reached high red status. Now, one color just separates her and the blackbelt.

Although both didn't bring home anything from Dagupan except souvenirs, let's hope that the experience and the honor of representing the region in a national tournament hopefully would be a springboard for better things and achievements. After this, it wouldn't come as a shock when we see these Patriots' faces in proud banners.



Illustrations by Kenneth Marimon

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DLSU-D on Southeast Asia's highest peak. Joseph Epino, Gerard Natividad, and Royce Cantimbuhan (from left to right) were among the 15 Filipinos who trekked Mt. Kinabalu. Photos by Joseph Epino and Gerard Natividad

DLSU-D conquers Mt. Kinabalu

By James Michael Chiong

With headlights, food supplies, first aid kits, layers of jackets, and a lot of guts to back them up, the DLSU-D Mountaineering Society (DMS), through the Rowers' Club Philippines (RCP-DLSU.DMS) has conquered 13,450-ft. Mt. Kinabalu in Borneo, Malaysia on May 27 to 29, 2006.

Lasallian Community Development Center faculty and DMS adviser Gerard "Dok" Natividad spearheaded the organization of the joint expedition, with his friends at RCP, where he is also a member.

The RCP-DLSU.DMS Joint Friendship Expedition team was composed of 11 members from the RCP and four from DMS, namely: Natividad, Royce Cantimbuhan, Joseph Epino, and DLSU-D and DMS alumna Maria Kristina Garcia.

"Actually, brainchild namin ni John Barry de la Cruz itong trip na ito, pangarap namin kasi na akyatin itong Mt. Kinabalu," said Natividad.

"Dapat lakad lang ng tropa 'yun sa 505 Search and Rescue team at sa RCP, kaso kinulang din kami ng mga aakyat so nag-organize na din ako ng mga sasama mula sa org (DMS)," he added.

According to Natividad, when the team reached the Kinabalu National Park (their starting point), they underestimated the climb. So they took the Mesilau trail, the eastern entrance to the summit and is 2.5 km farther than the southwest Timpohon trail. "Mahirap pala talaga siya (the climb), parang every once in a while pinupulikat ako," he said.

The DMS division tailed the RCP-DLSU.DMS team, and their trek towards the Laban Rata Rest House, which is about 11,000 ft from their starting point, took nine and a half hours. Due to the altitude, Natividad narrated that they were already experiencing altitude sickness.

They also had problems with the malfunctioning heater in the rest house. "Pumalo na ang altitude sickness kasi mataas na yung altitude ng Laban Rata. Mataas pa siya sa Mt. Apo. 'Yun pa lang malaking feat na,'" Natividad said.

They started to assault the summit the next day by 2:30 a.m. Some of their RCP co-trekkers chose to be left in the rest house, with fatigue taking a toll on their muscles.

"Mayroon kaming motto: the summit is optional, but

the trek downwards is mandatory," Natividad shared.

In the bottleneck, Natividad said, there were a lot of trekkers from other countries but they were the only Filipinos there. They were trying to climb the summit in time to witness and take a picture of the sunrise.

The DMS adviser said that during the expedition, they were just forcing themselves to go on the trek. "Parang hindi na namin kaya makabalik," he said.

"Nagalit 'yung guide sa amin kasi parang nakitaan niya kami na parang hindi na namin kaya umakyat at pinabababa na kami. Tuloy pa rin kami, persistent talaga kami, pwersado," Garcia said.

Their trek downward took them five hours through the shorter Timpohon trail.

"Nakapagbigay kami ng prestige sa school at sa [DMS], at magandang paraan ito para ma-boost ang sport na mountaineering at ang DMS," Natividad said.

Natividad stated that prior to the climb, the members of the trek team trained themselves for the event. They also borrowed some of the equipment that the team lacked from other DMS members.

Con-Con rejoins V-League

By Jonathan Terrado

Conception "Con-Con" Legaspi's impressive run in last season's Shakey's V-League tournament earned her another return appearance this season, and bagging for herself a Best Server award after aiding Lyceum clinch third.

The former Patriots' lady spiker, who last year played for two-time defending league champions DLSU-M, is currently playing for Women's National Collegiate Athletic Association powerhouse Lyceum of the Philippines Lady Pirates.

The Lady Pirates, who went winless in their 10 outings in the V-League a year ago, nabbed Legaspi, Letran's Ryza Carrillo and Jo Fernando, and Lyceum alumnae Glenda Pintolo, Beverly Boto, and Dahlia Cruz as reinforcements in hopes to improve from last season's dismal record.

The Lady Archers opted not to include Legaspi on their roster but instead signed up alumna Desiree Hernandez and Ivy Remulla, Dana Hernandez of De La Salle-Lipa, and Thai spiker Kanchana Jindarat to reinforce the team. Several reports on various electronic message boards posted prior to the tournament reported that Legaspi was

tentatively included in DLSU-M's lineup as reinforcement.

Legaspi had 11 points in her debut match with the Intramuros-based spikers on April 22, defeating Far Eastern University, 26-24, 25-23, 16-25, 25-19, at the Blue Eagle Gym in Quezon City.

Unlike in her previous role as complement for key Lady Archer volleybelles Manilla Santos, Hernandez, and Maureen Penetrante, Legaspi has been given more opportunities in the Lady Pirates' offense, combining with team captain Sheryl Carrillo in their scoring attacks.

In her team's win against Philippine Christian University-Manila on May 20, Legaspi recorded 15 attacks and a block, combining Sheryl Carrillo's 13 hits, two aces and two blocks, as the Lady Pirates defeated the Lady Dolphins, 28-26, 15-25, 25-18, 25-14, earning their third victory in the tournament.

The Lady Pirates clinched the final spot in the semifinals after their win against the Lady Dolphins, with a four set win against the slumping Ateneo de Manila Lady Eagles, 25-20, 25-15, 22-25, 25-22, as Carrillo and Legaspi combined for 43 points, including 35 kills. The victory clinched Lyceum's first semifinals appearance since the inauguration of the tournament in 2004.



Legaspi

TV capture from ABC 5 by Jonathan Terrado

DLSU-D cagebellees dominate Dasmariñas Inter-Barangay

By Jeremiah Aggabao

Victory was made sweet as the Patriots cagebellees steamrolled the Zone-4 Ballers two wins in a row after losing round one of the championship series of the 2006 Dasmariñas Sports Fest held at the Pamahalaang Bayan ng Dasmariñas. The green-and-white racked the opposition, 83-52.

After losing in Game 1,

55-64, the Patriots realized that a change of strategy is in order for them to redeem themselves in Game 2. "[Ang] dami na naming narating tapos magpapatalo lang sa interbarangay," said league MVP Emma Morada.

The Patriots fell into foul trouble early in the first half and gave the Zone-4 squad too big a headway for them to recover late in the game.

The Patriots played a

smarter and more aggressive game in the second face off, avoiding the unnecessary fouls that gave them a lot of trouble in Game 1. The Zone-4 cagebellees were conspicuously silent in the first half, allowing the Patriots a double-digit lead as early as the first quarter, 13-1. The second quarter belonged to the Patriots as they laid the smackdown, 26-17.

The Zone-4 dribblers at-

tempted a recovery in the third, with cagebellees Jovel Ang and Laurelyn Medrano leading the charge, putting up 18 markers and ending the quarter, 40-29. The Patriots got its second wind in the fourth, signaling the beginning of their assault with close-ranged markers by Morada, Yvette Babierra, and Cecille Garces. They eliminated the Zone-4 squad, 62-51.

In the third game, the green-and-white squad took advantage of the momentum built by their previous victory, shooting to a double-digit lead in the first quarter, led by Morada and Rose "the Ghost" de Guzman. The Patriots blazed past the Ballers, 21-7.

The Patriots offense refused to buckle as the Zone-4 squad could not find their pace in the second quarter, 37-13. The Zone-4 shooters made an attempt at recovery

in the third, with Ang and Vivian Nogado regaining their perimeter jumper a tad too late, the Zone-4 squad putting up 18 markers versus the Patriots' 20, leaving the score at 57-31. However the green-shirts' relentless offense spread markers across their roster in the fourth, bringing the Ballers to their knees by the final buzzer.

"Nag-mature sila sa liga," a fulfilled coach Meynard Ballecer said in a post game

interview. "Konting polish na lang. The team has a good chance this year if the [current] system will continue."

Box scores (Game 3)

Patriots: Morada, 20; De Guzman, 18; Baron, 11; Garces, 8; Castillo, 6; Rivero, 5; Subine, 4; Babierra, 2; Canon, 2; Alday, 2; Paz, 2; Valenzuela, 2; Aeila Luna, 1.

Ballers: Mendoza, 18; Ang, 14; Nogado, 10; Pamplona, 6; Medrano, 4.



The Patriots cagebellees after the final game

Photo by Jonathan Terrado

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