## R3 hoopers are 2015's Basketball Kings



Central Luzon's bigman Abraham Crisostomo (12) and wingman Kenneth Reyes (8) tower to block NCR's Center Ronnie Mayuyo's attempt at the basket in yesterday's basketball finals at the Cagayan Sports Complex. (Photos co

By Michael Lavadia, Efren Reves Jr., Denmark Orita, Janice Joy Balanza, Susette Vicente, and Rochell Nera

If the NBA had San Antonio Spurs as 2014 Season's champion and the PBA had San Miguel Beermen as Philippine Cup winner, the National State Colleges and Universities Athletic Association (SCUAA) 2015 Olympics just had Central Luzon hoopers as hardcourt kings.

After falling a game short for a championship trip in last year's SCUAA, Central Luzon has not only proven once more that they are legit basketball contenders but exceeded expectations instead as it dispatched ring darlings National Capital Region (NCR), 101-93.

Last year's semi-finalist shot a crazy 72 per cent from downtown, missing only three, shots out of 11 attempts (8/11) over a sub-par 4/14, shooting from highly-favored NCR squad.

# on the Rise

#### By Xandra Louise E. Rabanal

Born to be a chess wizard, Cagayan Valley Region's Mark Lester Asejo proved that he can be a very competent chess master in the near future.

"This is the first time that I joined the National SCUAA in my college years," he said in an

Mark Lester started playing chess at the age of 9; he was only grade 4 way back then. He first won an official chess tournament when he was second year high school at the Cagayan National High School.

A third year Civil Engineering student of Cagayan State University Carig, Lester showed



Aseio (fourth from left) finds time to be with his friends and classmates whenever he can. (Photo grab from Asejo's FB Account)

## A Chess Superstar ARMM rules volleyball men

By Denmark A. Orita and Rochelle A. Nera

Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) will go home with pride as it put on a show against SOCCKSARGEN, 3-0, en route to a gold finish in this year's SCUAA National Olympics Volleyball tournament.

ARMM displayed a masterful performance at the Cagayan Sports Complex after wiping out R12 in three sets, 25-18, 25-15, 25-23.

ARMM's Edward Garcia and Daud Salitandem claimed the first set from Region 12 with proper set plays and attacks which gave the team 25-18.

The former's Roldan Medina Jr. blocked the hits of the latter, ending the second set 25-15.

SOCCKSARGEN fought back for one final stand but fell short, 25-23.

With the loss, SOCCKSARGEN ended with silver medal.

On the other hand, defending champion Central Luzon stumbled this year, settling only for a bronze medal finish.

When asked about the team's winning secret, team captain Daud Sali highlighted the team's discipline, practice and unity.

"Nanalo kami sa tingin ko dahil sa discipline, practice, at dapat hindi mag-away yung mga players, dapat may unity sa team," Sali said.

In a separate interview, Cotabato City State

Polytechnic College Sports Director Edgar Boquia bared their plan for the next year's competition.

"We'll do trainings, practice and recruit taller players in order to compete with other regions," said Director Boquia.

### **National Capital** Region reaps volleyball crown

#### By Susette Vicente and Janice Joy S. Balanza

The National Capital Region notched the biggest victory in Women's Volleyball as it stopped Central Luzon in the Championship game, 3-1.

NCR has proven it's supremacy after winning all its matches against the other participating region that led them to joining the championship battle.

In the final game, Central Luzon trounced past NCR the first set, 25-16.

Eager to win the game, NCR volleybelles rose to the occasion and never looked back since, including a neck and neck finish in the third set in which only a couple of points

## R4, 9 best Karatedo individual

Competed by 11 representatives from all over the country, Region 4A sealed domination when it landed 1st and 2nd in Karatedo Men's Individual recording 23.8 and 23.4 points, respectively, followed by 23.2 points of Region 3 and National Capital Region's 23.1.

R4A qualified for the final match after prevailing over R3, then faced R10 finalist who beat NCR.

R4A athlete Jim Nathaniel Cereza got the better of R10's Jannoah-al Meneses to place the latter 2nd best before him.

Eleven female representatives competed for the individual performance too.

Result from initial elimination turned to be R-9 being the 1st, R-4A as the 2nd, R-03 for the 3rd place and ARMM landed as the 4th.

Heiddy Chloe Angeles of R-09 got all the judges votes, making her the gold medalist and Melogiebeth Masalonga of R-4A the silver medalist

R3 and ARMM finished off with bronze medal. By Aldrin Bitamog

## NCR champs lawn tennis

National Capital Region (NCR) ended superior in the National SCUAA Olympics 2015 Lawn Tennis Championship game Singles and Doubles category in Women's Division when it stuck past Eastern Visayas, Feb. 12.

With special strategies and techniques, Mary Grace Melchor of NCR got away from her opponent Elgy Dasian of Region 8 in single's category, 6-5.

Melchor won through her faultless smash that made it difficult for Dasian to send back ball in the last set.

Meanwhile, in Doubles category, Frances Maybelle Espinosa and Ma. Elmira Pagot of NCR overpowered Dasian Elma and Noreen Berongoy of Region 8, ending the game with a score of 6-4.

Espinosa and Pagot ruled the court when the duo mixed up their shots to make it difficult for their rivals to counter.

According to Espinosa and Pagot, they played the game with their best movement and determination.

"Talagang sinigurado naming handa kami, babad sa training because we are eager to get the gold medal laban sa mga magagaling pang mga regions," Pagot said.

"Prayer and trust to God lang ang sikreto naming. God is bigger than them kahit sobrang lakas ng kalaban if you have faith in Jesus name, makakaya mo lahat," Espinosa added. *By Dante Golang, Jennievah Baribad and Ever Guloy* 

## NCR cops men's beach volleyball tilt

After struggling from elims to semis, National Capital Region's tandem Aldrin Figueroa and Peter Paul Galuan had the job done as they bagged the gold medal in the beach volleyball men's division, Feb. 11.

The do-it-all tandem of NCR used a vast repertoire of hits coupled with unrelenting floor defense to brush off Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao's much-taller duo of Marvin Hairami and Aga Tahiluddin during the first set, 17-21.

However, ARMM recovered from slow start and gathered more steam in the second set, 21-18.

In the deciding set, NCR regained their momentum to wrap up the game in their favor, 15-7.

Meanwhile, ARMM and Region 3 landed second and third places, respectively, and in women's division, Region 3, NCR, and Region 5 bagged the gold, silver, and bronze, respectively.

By Ma. Aiza delos Reyes and Donnabelle Maquimot

### ARMM completes lawn tennis quest

By Rosemarie Batang and Bernadeth Heralde



ARMM players and coaches pose with their winning gesture. (Photo courtesy of authors

Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao brought home the bacon in the National SCUAA 2015 Olympics, Lawn Tennis Men's Division Championship game at court 2 CSU-Carig, Feb. 12.

The game lasted for almost an hour, with the unstoppable rally by the players, in the first set of the game that made both of them score 40-40 to force a sudden-death situation that eventually favored ARMM.

With a couple of rally for 40 and 30 seconds, the audience howled with smiles on their faces because of the thrilling performance of the players.

The singles player of ARMM, Ahmad Armama, impressed the audience with his skills and energy after defeating his rival, Reynald Pioquinto of R01.

In an interview, Armama said that being humble is his key for winning.

When asked about his feelings in winning the game, he said: "Okay lang, masaya kasi kami yung nanalo."

Also in the doubles division, Stephen Vosotros and Noel Salupado showed no chance for R1's doubles players, Rron Aldwin Canillas and Ronnie Dela Cruz, with their defensive volley moves.

Vosotros gave his opponent a dink that faked them to go back to court, and the clever move made them win the game.

Both teams came through pressure in delivering the goods for their regions.

During the quarter finals of the first game played between R02 and R03, the latter knocked off the former by winning the first singles, 6-1 and second singles, 6-5.

Furthermore, in the second game between R4 and R1, Ilocos Region ruled over Southern Tagalog with a score of 6-4 in the first singles and 6-5 in doubles.

Next was the clash between NCR and ARMM where the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao dominated the National Capital Region marking their score 6-2 in doubles and 6-1 in second singles.

In the fourth game played between R10 and R13, the former nailed the latter by winning the game 2-0, first singles 6-1 and doubles, 6-3.

Also, R1 clashed R2 by getting the game, 2-0 scoring 6-5 on the first singles and 2-6 in doubles.

#### A Chess Superstar.. from page 1

his analytical prowess as he champed the chess men's division board no. 2.

"It was already a losing game and I don't have the interest anymore to play because we cannot catch up for a team place anymore, I just played along and I won," he stated with a smile on his face.

Asejo always uses the D-4 opening move in every tournament that he is joining. Never did he show any picture of nervousness whenever he joins a chess game.

Many would say that playing chess is only for the nerd and unexciting individuals, but for Lester, he finds it okay and enjoyable because of the thrill the game puts on him and the friendship he was able to establish within the team.

On the 13th round of a robin tournament during the National SCUAA 2015 Olympics, Asejo got one lost and two draws, making him bag the precious gold medal.

Lester Asejo's present coach, Mr. Jesus

Anastacio, told the 'SCUAA Upadates' that he was Asejo's coach and trainor since he began joining chess tournaments.

"Lester really has a potential. And I call him as the CSU chess superstar," he declared.

#### National Capital Region... from page 1

separated them from R3.

Shana Marie Costillas of NCR said that they are overwhelmed and thankful for bagging the championship, adding that their goal of playing is to win the title and much to their delight, they did.

When asked how they overcame their first few assignments from elimination to semifinals, Costillas said that their team has a good communication, and they have presence of mind.

Meanwhile, after defeating the Region 09, 3-2, Region 02 landed in the third place as bronze medalist.

## TO BE SELLAND Updates

### R6 tops 3 events in women's pro active Arnis league

By Racquel Taguiam

Western Visayas ruled three events during the championship game in the National State Colleges and Universities Athletic Association (SCUAA) 2015 Olympics in Women's Pro Active Arnis League, Feb. 9.

R6 ranked first in Individual Solo Baston (ISB), Team Solo Baston (TSB), Team Double Baston (TDB) categories.

R6's Crystal AJ Bartonico seized the spot in the ISB category over contenders from R10 and R12 who finished off 2nd and 3rd, respectively.

Bartonico, too, garnered 1st while teaming up with Fly Weight Ferbie Ann Ramos and Feather Weight Jenny Shiently Guarin in TSB and TDB categories.

Bartonico also took bronze in Pin Weight Division with CARAGA Arnisador Jessa Mae Abalos.

Ramos brought home the gold medal in Fly Weight Division as well.

Welter Weight Jennifer Gumboc grabbed silver and Heavy Weight Angelica Fulgecio received bronze.

Light Weight Cherubin Vallejo ended up at 3rd rank with Edralyn Joy Apurado and Joanna Marie Fontiveros in Team Sword and Dagger Category.

# Why do people join contact sports despite the violence and the possibility of getting hurt?

By Kristine Joyce L. De Leon

Contact sports such as boxing and wrestling are areas of interest under sports violence. There have been several studies on this linking gender relations and notions, and masculine identity. According to these, the explicit focus on masculinity comes not only as a response to critiques that gender relations have often been absent or implicit within work examining boxing, but also because the sport is so intimately linked to certain forms of masculine identity. The work environment such as the

"Bag works" and sparring enabled opportunities to generate significant emotional and sensuous experiences. These experiences, according to researches, are intertwined with social significance. The pleasure, enjoyment, meaning and significance of these was structured by pervasive notions connected to masculinity, class and boxing traditions. Other studies show that the punching bag enabled the men to generate express aggression. This loosening of control over the production of

usually unacceptable emotions was thought to be a key component of their enjoyment. Grunts, grimaces and other bodily displays of emotion regular occurrences and tended to be described as an enjoyable opportunity to release frustration and experience the "buzz" was thought to accompany this 'cathartic' release. Furthermore, such emotional displays were produced in conjunction with physically enjoyable experiences. Acts of learning

the technique, "letting loose" on the bag and 'timing' a punch were physically rewarding. Feelings of power transferring from ones body to the bag and sensations of speed and timing elicited markers that were enjoyable



gym or the boxing arena was believed to be a heterosexual male preserve, that is it is a space mainly reserved for 'real' men. Based on literatures, there is a perceived 'naturalness' accompanying these notions of 'realness', which provides justification and legitimation for certain violent practices. Moreover, norms and values that dominate in the boxing area were associated with a tough masculine style that symbolically matched traditional working-class values.

Ethnographic studies on contact sports reveal the boxers' belief that there was a biological explanation for their enjoyment of boxing violence. As such, the simulated nature of their training was believed to turn a potentially socially negative, biological need to engage in some form of aggressive physicality, into a controlled, socially acceptable action, which served a positive function in the community. It is also argued that the boxing area was a site in which particular and powerful emotions and physical sensations were legitimized and rewarded.



#### R3 hoopers are.. from page 1

Region 3 stormed an early 36-10 dominant first period exploiting NCR's full-court press and playing the passing lanes on the other end of the court in which they stole the ball 11 times as against NCR's solitary swipe.

R3 sustained its rampage in the second quarter to seat at a comfortable lead heading to the second half, 53-28.

With a great sense of urgency, NCR launched a threatening 65-48 second-half turn-around but came short in overhauling a 25-first half deficit.

NCR ballers also could not capitalize on their freethrows as they missed 17 of their 36 attempts.

Big man Abraham Crisostomo led R3's charge with 20 points and 11 rebounds while forward Kenneth Reyes delivered 15 points, 10 boards and 3 dimes.

Crowd idol and Center Dominic Fajardo chipped in 14 markers, 6 boards and 5 steals; Paul Vincent De la Cruz added 15 points, and 6 steals while Den De Leon contributed 18 points off the bench including two critical charity baskets to put the icing on the cake.

Meanwhile, Kerr Bangeles scored a teamhigh 19 points for NCR.

Michael Are, Ronie Mayuyo and Riva Storm added 14, 13 and 11 points, respectively.

In a post-game interview, Coach John Verdel of Central Luzon expressed his joy about the outcome of the game and extended his thanks to the Cagayanos.

"Solid talaga kami. I'm happy kasi most of my players are graduating students at ganito pa ang naging outcome. Salamat sa mga taga-Cagayan sa pag-welcome sa amin dito. Maganda talaga ang lugar," he said.



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## NCR retains crown in Sepak Takraw;

Gonzales named MVP

By Michael Gaspar

Relentless, powerful attacks and sound fundamentals spearheaded the National Capital Region's thumping of Western Visayas, 2-0, en route to the championship crown during the final day of Sepak Takraw competitions at the CSU Carig grounds, February 12.

Defending champions NCR needed only 2 regus to dispose off the resilient Region 6 squad, displaying their supremacy in straight set finishes.

In the 1st regu, NCR's tekong Encabo came out firing, hitting 3 consecutive service aces to open up the contest.

Teammate and right inside Magsilang complemented the former's fiery start as he showcased his signature bicycle kicks to easily take the 1st set, 21-15.

Western Visayas turned the tides in the second set, dashing to an early lead by capitalizing off their opponents service errors.

Region six's right inside spiker found his groove and effectively blocked and countered



NCR's Mark Joseph Gonzales finishes the game with his sharp cartwheel. (Photo courtesy of Sarah Jane Redoble and Manases Lacambra)

the attacks of Magsilang to give their squad a commanding 15 to 7 lead.

But the NCR boys kept their cool and sparked a flurry of their own, tying the score at 18 apiece and eventually winning the set,

the first National participation of the team and

their performance was good, "my players were

Nevertheless, Region 10 still earned the

silver medal, followed by the Cordillera

consistent, we won 5 games straight."

21-19.

In the second regu, NCR's Gonzales stole the show as he won over the crowd with dazzling cartwheel strikes that paved the way for an easy 1st set win, 21-12.

Region 6 gained momentum in the next set with a much improved defense that set up their own offensive attack.

Western Visayas started to widen the gap, 17-11, but NCR fought their way back into contention and force a deadlock at 20-all.

With the 2-point advantage rule in play, NCR leaned on Gonzales anew as he buried the championship points in the pavement to seal away the victory.

During the awarding ceremony, NCR bagged all the awards led by Gonzales who clutched the Most Valuable Player (MVP) and Best Spiker award, Best Tekong for Encabo, Best Setter for Rudolph Alvarez and Best coach for Coach Romulo Ruedas, leaving the other teams nothing but their places as 1st runner up for the Region 6, 2nd runner up for the Region 3 and Region 10 as the 3rd runner up.

When asked how Coach Ruedas maintained NCR's standing in Sepak Takraw, he said that his players' ability and discipline that led them to capturing the gold. With report from Sarah Jane Redoble and Manases Lacambra

### Why do people join.. from page 3

for the men. The elements of carnal pleasures and sensuousness of participation, according to one author (Wacquant), is observable in sports violence. These sensuous and emotional significances are central elements in the enjoyment and function of boxing for men.

### Region 6 takes home gold in football

By Rolaine Pacallagan

Western Visayas, as had been predicted by the game's officiating officials during its first game, ended as the best team, beating all football contenders.

The no-loss team defeated its anticipated

strongest opponent, Region 10, which leveled itself to the victors during the first half of the championship game, 1-1.

Central Mindanao (R10) forced a handful of goals yet came short because of Western Visayas' goalkeeper, Paolo Carballe, player number 13.

Diomar Caruscay edged R10 when he kicked a goal during the second half, tailing the team's first point from midfield John Elton Dearce.

AABINAL GLYRICE COLST TOTAL CO

from midfield John Triumphant and Victorious! Region 6 football players with their coach, Mr. John Camora, proudly present their gold medals. (Photo courtesy of author)

Region 10 kept the chase until it lost its goalkeeper because of an injury a quarter before the game ended.

The other team took advantage and finished its third goal through a quick blow by striker Carl de Jesus, 3-1.

Meanwhile, Gerald Paparon, another player from the victorious team, showed sportsmanship after initiating a friendly gesture to R10's coach.

Head Coach John Carmona proudly said it's

Administrative Region (CAR).

