Eastern Visayas wins Ms. SCUAA 2015 title; Bicol’s bet is Mr. SCUAA 2015

By Melou Darilag and Steve Malana

Eastern Visayas bet, Maria Gaile Tobes, won the Ms. SCUAA 2015 title and Bicol’s contender, Leonard Mateos, bagged the Mr. SCUAA 2015 title during the coronation night held yesterday at the Cagayan State University Andrews Gymnasium, Tuguegarao City.

Tobes, 20, and Mateos, also 20, seized the crown, besting young women and men from 12 regions.

Of the 12 women, those who made it to the top 5 were Rose Anne Petero (Central Luzon), 4th runner-up, Nikka Joyce M. Penolio (Bicol), 3rd runner-up, Christille Marie R. Medalle (Central Visayas), 2nd runner-up, and Janielle Fajardo (Southern Tagalog), 1st runner-up.

Rounding up the top 5 in the men division were Ilocos’ John Jacobe, 4th runner-up, CAR’s Chris John Belgica, 3rd runner-up, NCR’s Christian Padilla, 2nd runner-up, and Central Luzon’s Renz Maun, 1st runner-up.

Question and Answer Portion

During the question and answer portion, Tobes, who was proclaimed Ms. Photogenic, Best in Swimwear and Best in Cocktail Dress, was asked “How can you concretize this year’s theme: one vision, one roadmap and one response through sports?”

Tobes answered: “Our theme connotes that through sports we can attain unity. Unity must come first from ourselves so we can spread this to the community.”

“This can be concretized by doing things through sports, by involving oneself to sports and by showing people how sports can mold me, transform me, affect me, and mold me.”

“If people will see that, they will automatically follow. As a beauty queen, I have the power to...”
Pagbilao posts 18-12-3 as R2 beats Central Visayas

By Michael Lavadia, Arlene Ilarde and Mary Rose Marvas

When the people of Tuguegarao were already up on their feet yelling and cheering, the visiting Region 7 should have known what the host region crowd could do to change the course of the game.

They didn’t see it coming.
Julius Pagbilao, who took off from the crowd’s cheers after his teammate Jayson Balisi converted back-to-back 3-pointers in the late part of the 3rd quarter, exploded for 18 markers, 12 rebounds and 3 authoritative blocks en route to an 88-77 win against Central Visayas.

Prior to a 30-point third quarter team explosion, Jayson Balisi heaved and made a half-court shot just a couple of seconds after the end of the third quarter that gave the spectators a reason to start roaring even though the shot didn’t count.

With the crowd on its side and with Central Visayas star Agustino Noay and Vicente Colina fouled out of the game, Region 2 took advantage of the situation outscoring Region 7 in the last quarter, 31-17, behind Ruben Malana’s 11-point blast and Pagbilao’s 5 boards.

Cagayan Valley started poor in the first half going field goal-less in the last 4 minutes of the second quarter that limited them to only 9 2nd-quarter points.

Region 2 managed to get back to the game despite a poor-shooting day by star Rafael Camara who converted only 3 field goals out of 16 attempts.

Malana came to the rescue and finished with a game-high 22 points, while Balisi contributed 15 points including 3/4 shooting from beyond the arc.

Also, the host Region outrebounded the visiting region in the second half 30:12 to control and seize the game.

Meanwhile, Noay finished with team-high 20 points for Central Visayas. Nico Dimoy and Paul Arnold Ragay contributed 15 markers each.

Team Cagayan captured its first win in Bracket C, while Region 7 players are on a two-game losing skid.

R02 tweaks past R07
in lawn tennis

By Bernadeth Heralde and Rosemarie Batang

Region 02 beat Region 07 in Lawn Tennis men’s Single.

Ferdinand Domingo proved too strong for Nino Ritz Remonde as he won the first match in Lawn Tennis Court 2, CSU Carig, yesterday.

The ace of R02 came through 6-5 in 27 minutes.

Domingo made a blistering start racing into 2-1 on the third set.

It was Remonde who hauled back breaks to force a tie break, 5-5 then suddenly a rally took place for some seconds ending up in Domingo’s favor.

Domingo celebrated his victory by throwing his racquet into the air and a hand shake to his opponent.

Meanwhile, in women’s doubles division, NCR eased lead over Region 4 with a score of 6-5 in the first game.

Elmina Pagot and Frances Espinosa moved into 3-0 lead but saw the advantage wiped out when a rejuvenated Grace Melchor and Jhac Fernandez strung 2 points in sixth set giving them a score of 4-2.

Then, on the final set, there was a tie break between the two teams that ended up 5-6 in favor of NCR.

In an interview, Pagot and Espinosa said that teamwork was their key for winning the game.

Moreover, in Men’s Doubles Division game, R2 again bagged the match 6-5 as Jie Diongson and Ronald Garcia showed their powerful defenses against their opponent, R7.

On the other hand, in women’s Singles Division, R7 won over R10 with a score of 6-4.

Also, in Men’s Doubles Division Second game, ARMM beat R8 with a score of 6-3.

ARMM nailed R8, garnering 3 consecutive points giving the latter a love score.

In between the game, R8 eased to get point and fortunately got 3 but then, the ARMM showed up no pity and nailed R8 again, leaving a score of 6-3.

In the second game of Men’s Single Division between ARMM and R08 in, ARMM again captured victory after beating R8 with a score of 6-3.

Region 4 stuns Region 9, 11-9

By Rochelle Nonato and Alyssa Faith Chua

Region 4 forced a sixth inning in Men’s Softball, game 2 bracket D as Jhon Paul Golla delivered a late home-run to end the high hopes of Region 8 in the State Universities and Colleges Athletes Association (SCUAA) 2015 National Olympics, Feb. 9.

The first inning deemed dangerous for R4 after R8 took an early lead, 6-1.

R4 made no rooms for error as they initiated the heated fourth inning to snatch the lead from R8, 3-1.

R4 and R8 went head-to-head during the fifth and last inning that made the game call for a draw, 7-7.

R4 lost its composure as R8 held the last bat, yet they failed to score, giving a chance for the Southern Tagalog extending the game to six innings.

With the game 7-7 apiece, Golla delivered a home-run for a come-from-behind victory.

According to Mr. Jeremy Atterado, R4 coach, both opposing teams are good, but they needed to stick to the game for them to win.

“There’s passion and composure even under pressure,” he added.

Meanwhile, NCR outbatted R01, 7-2, game 1 bracket A. R2 made their way to glory beating R7, 7-0, game 2 bracket C. NCR beat R12 in game 3 bracket A, 2-0.

Moreover, R6 blanked R9 in game 1 bracket B, 3-0. R3 threw off R9 in game 2 bracket B, 7-0.

Atheletes, coaches... from page 1

The solon later continued his speech, where he described the athletes present as the future members of Gilas Pilipinas and Azcals and who may follow the steps of the pound-for-pound king, Manny Pacquiao.

CORRECTION: On page 4 of our first issue, we ran a story titled “Region 6 edges Region 9 in Sepak Takraw, 2-1” written by Sarah Jane Redoble. We erred in writing region 9 instead of region 11. We apologize for the error.-Ed.
NCR shines over 12 regions

By Jennievar Baribad and Divine Grace Tungul

National Capital Region (NCR) topped the Table Tennis Tournament elimination round for both men and women division guided by the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) rules and regulations. Through six matches with two sets of games from singles and doubles category, NCR ruled the game with the total of 12 points over Regions 1, 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10.

Myrna Abaro, one of the players of NCR, won over Region 8. Abarro emerged victorious against her opponent, Renalyn Estrada of Region 8, through her fast aggressive topspin stroke.

Estrada struck the ball well to snatch points over Abarro, but, unfortunately, Abarro blocked the attack and began to punch her opponent. The game took five rounds before Abarro was proclaimed winner with 3-2 and row points of 11-9. From double category, the tandem of Kristel Mariz Orita and Loraine Cayetano, both players of NCR, gave their punch through four regions with the score of 4 wins and 0 loss.

And for men’s division, NCR and Region 10 bagged the reigning points. NCR also got 6 points over three regions, namely, Regions 2, 10 and 4. Abarro said “Sobrang saya po na kaming mababahagi ng NCW women never pa kaming nagtop ng sa braket ng elimination round.”

“We will make sure that what we have started will be continued as we reach the championship round,” Abarro added.

Region 1 ranked second, Region 8 ranked 3rd and Region 6 garnered 4th place in the women category in the initial tally. For men’s division, Region 10 garnered 2nd place with five points with Mark Tapitan in singles category and Mildred Barrientos and Jayson Paha in doubles category.

While Regions 2, 10 and 4, Region 8 and Region 6 garnered the points of 4 wins and 0 loss. And for men’s division, NCR and Region 10 bagged the reigning points.

Why are beauty pageants valued in the Philippines?

By Kristine Joyce L. De Leon

Have you ever noticed the growing number of spas, massage centers, beauty parlors and the likes in the country? This, according to sociologist, is a representation of the Filipino value on beauty and youthful living. Apart from valuing tradition, family, faith in God, compassion, debt of gratitude, hospitality and nationalism, we, Filipinos also value beauty. Our concept of beauty is rooted in the country’s history. We cannot deny the fact that the long years of Spanish and American colonization have deeply rooted and ingrained effects on our culture.

Beauty pageants, according to researches, present women as symbols of national pride. Women perform the so-called actions that define femininity as part of national identity. The image of the beautiful, proper woman is constructed as a symbol of national pride, power and modernity. In the past, women are associated with the private sphere; however, beauty pageants involve the performance of women in the public space. This, somehow liberates women and allows for the reversal of traditional gender hierarchies. Through public performances such as beauty pageants, women make claims to the (public) space and the nation or community.

Moreover, beauty pageants showcase values of morality, gender and place. It involves the competition of idealized individuals and contain political issues. Individuals are chosen to represent the values and goals of the nation or group. It likewise provides opportunities for public expression and negotiation of standards and values. Local beauty pageants such as the Search for Mr. and Ms. SCUAA contribute to notions of cultural pride as the candidates must be a model representation of their native cultural essence.

Since its inception, the nature of beauty pageant has shifted according to its historical context; the pageant was wholeheartedly embraced for its role in upholding certain traditional norms of gender and femininity.

Although many believe that beauty pageants are outdated and consequently of little social significance, some researches argue that pageants are important and uphold critical ideals that are central to our cultural beliefs and practices. Beauty pageants represent a very deliberate and particular version of femininity, one that upholds national identity, which serves to symbolize the cultural core of the nation. Beauty pageants are not just about physical beauty. They, too, seek to construct and perpetuate “an image of the ideal attitude of femininity.”
Region 7 advances to quarter finals past NCR, 3-2

By Denmark Orita and Rochelle Nera

Central Luzon escaped past highly favored National Capital Region (NCR) in the third game of volleyball men’s division bracket D of the National SCUAA 2015 Olympics, 3-2.

Region III needed a decision set after a fourth-set comeback by NCR spikers to join other teams in the winning column.

Region 3 battled head-to-head against NCR right on the get-go as it needed an extension to take the first set, 27-25.

NCR gave a dose of its own medicine in the second set limiting Region 3 to only 12 points. In the third set, Region 3 lost a player when David Evangelista has his right led sprained but the spikers managed to hold off their rivals through defense and relentless attacks, 25-14.

NCR bounced back to tie the match, 25-17 in the fourth set.

Region 3’s defense tightened up in the deciding set, killing three hits from NCR to finally steal the game, 15-12.

R3, ARMM on 2-game winning streak

By Janice Joy S. Balanza

After defeating Eastern Visayas yesterday to open its National SCUAA campaign, the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) once again pulled off another victory this time against the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) to lead other teams in Bracket C of Women’s Volleyball game.

The Central Luzon team is also looking sharp as it recorded its 2nd straight win over Southern Tagalog after upsetting Region 2, 3-1 in Bracket B.

ARMN swept the CAR with 6 point lead on the first set, 8 on the second, then 5 point lead in the last set, 25-19, 25-17, 25-20.

On the other hand, after losing the first set and having two injured teammates, Central Luzon nipped Southern Tagalog in a head to head play with the score of 21-15.

The first set was a close fight that caused a deuce but Southern Tagalog prevailed, 26-24.