



THE EAGLE EYE

SPECIAL COVERAGE: KEEPING A WATCHFUL EYE ON THE 2025 CAVRASUC



PAGEANT PRESTIGE

ISU, PNU-NL take home Mr. and Ms. CAVRASUC '25

Crownfident. Mr. Roden Rasing of Isabela State University and Ms. Lovely Viernes of Philippine Normal University – North Luzon, adorned with their newly won crowns during their coronation at the CSU Andrews Claude Conference Hall, March 26.

↑ RYAN PAUL OCCIDENTAL AND MARIA PAZ BUCAYU, THE CSU COMMUNICATOR
↑ JAMAICA ATUAN AND CAZMIR MADDUMA, THE CSU PROMETHEAN
📍 JANLORD PAGULAYAN
📸 ELLA MAE TAURO

Roden Rasing of Isabela State University (ISU) and Lovely Viernes of Philippine Normal University – North Luzon (PNU-NL) were crowned Mr. and Ms. Cagayan Valley Regional Association of State Universities and Colleges (CAVRASUC) 2025 at the Claude Andrews Convention Center, March 26.

Competing against representatives from five other State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) in the region, Rasing secured a back-to-back victory for ISU, while Viernes triumphed on her second attempt at the

coveted title, after bringing grace and intellect to the competition.

Rasing is committed to student empowerment after he underscored the role of experience in driving transformation and creating a lasting legacy. He believes education and leadership are essential partners in building a better tomorrow.

"By providing this [student empowerment] and also by promoting SDG 3, 4, 5, 6, and 17, focusing on mental wellness, academic excellence, inclusivity, and partnership, we develop skills, healthy living, and confidence to face challenges to achieve our goals, sportsmanship,

and unity in our community," he advocated.

"Participating in sports and cultural events is proof of impact in our lives by defending our physical and mental wellness, enhancing academic performance and sportsmanship, and fostering a sense of community and productivity," he added.

PNU-NL's bet, on the other hand, is a firm advocate of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4 after she highlighted the importance of reading literacy and reading comprehension in the advocacy portion of the pageant to empower education among children.

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THE EAGLE EYE is the official newsletter of Cagayan State University for the CAVRASUC Games 2025 Coverage



DOMINANCE AND DIVERSITY

ISU rules instrumental showdown; SUCs share vocal triumphs

✦ JERRYCA CABADDU AND GIDEON SEMINIANO, THE CSU COMMUNICATOR
✦ JEROME RAMIREZ

Isabela State University (ISU) asserted its dominance in the Cagayan Valley Regional Association of State Universities and Colleges (CaVRASUC) 2025 Instrumental Competition after clinching two gold medals and a bronze finish in the battle of musical excellence held last March 26, at the Claude Andrews Convention Center, CSU-Andrews Campus.

ISU's gold-medal performances in instrumental solo piano and banduria solidified its status as a powerhouse in the instrumental category, outshining competitors from five other State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) in the region.

Cagayan State University (CSU) secured gold in the classical guitar category and achieved multiple podium finishes in three other categories, ensuring that the host university remained a strong contender for the overall championship race.

Philippine Normal University – North Luzon also made history, securing its third consecutive championship in the violin category, proving its sustained excellence in string performances.

According to Stephen Marc Talaver,

three-time champion in instrumental solo violin, maintaining his reign in the category came with immense pressure, especially while juggling academic responsibilities.

"Simula noong 2023, titleholder ako, then noong last year, and luckily, thank you, Lord, nakuha ulit natin. Napressure ako sobra kasi syempre, I need to maintain it. Seven to five kasi ang klase ko, kaya isang oras na lang ako nakakapag-practice araw-araw, 5:30 to 6:30 ng gabi," 3rd Year Education- Student Talaver said.

"Lagi't lagi para sa inang pamantasan," he added.

While Isabela State University (ISU) dominated the instrumental events, the vocal competitions proved to be an open battleground, with each participating university securing victories across the four contested events.

Cagayan State University (CSU) claimed the top spot in the Vocal Solo Kundiman category, followed by Nueva Vizcaya State University (NVSU) in second place and ISU in third.

Meanwhile, Jesus Macatuggal of ISU clinched the gold medal in the Pop Solo competition, outshining five other competitors.

Macatuggal shared that winning the

event had been his goal for the past four years.

"For the last time na ako 'yong magre-represent ng ISU, tuwang-tuwa po talaga ako kasi nakuha ko na rin 'yong panalo," he expressed.

He added that he and his coach chose "Noypi" by Bamboo as his competition piece, believing that its message would resonate with the audience.

Following behind, NVSU and Quirino State University (QSU) secured second and third place, respectively.

After falling short of a podium finish in the previous categories, Philippine Normal University-North Luzon (PNU-NL) claimed its first medal by winning the Vocal Duet competition.

The silver and bronze were awarded to CSU and QSU, respectively.

Closing the competition, four universities participated in the Live Band event, electrifying the crowd at CSU Andrews Gymnasium. In the end, NVSU was crowned champion, followed by QSU in second place and CSU in third.

Following the series of performances, CSU emerged as the overall champion in the socio-cultural events, dethroning ISU. 🏆



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Championship Games
Awarding/Closing Program

DAY 5

Championship Games
Awarding/Closing Program



SCAN HERE

for the full details of the programme.

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C-ACE-U: Championing a Home for the Aces

HELAENA THEREESE MALANA, THE CSU PROMETHEAN
CRISTELLA ALVAREZ, THE CSU PROMETHEAN

“Ad Astra Per Aspera”—through hardships to the stars. This tagline of Cagayan State University (CSU) was embodied as it hosted the Cagayan Valley Regional Association of State Universities and Colleges (CaVRASUC) 2025 Meet. While the dazzling lights may have resembled the stars, no amount of props could truly capture what went on behind the scenes—the thoughtful planning, rigorous rehearsals, and meticulous preparations that went into CSU’s grand accommodations.

The captivating parade began with vibrant tassels fluttering in sync at the rotunda’s entrance, creating the illusion of a colorful explosion as the delegates marched forward. Upon reaching Palm Avenue, spectators were met with a breathtaking display of festival dances, all united by a common motif: blinding LED lighting—whether from bulbs, fairy lights, or flashlights.

The procession eventually led to the Red Eagle Gymnasium, the final destination for the opening program. As the delegates entered, they were greeted by a surprise performance from CSU students occupying the bleachers—a spectacular welcome dance that resembled blazing fire spreading rapidly across the venue.

The host university, through its Basic Physical Education students, ensured an unforgettable first impression for the visiting athletes, artists, and coaches—ushering them into the limelight. But that was only the beginning. There is more to experience at Cagayan State University.

Lights On or Lights Off?

Inside the Red Eagle Gym, two striking props enhanced the ambiance. First were meticulously crafted plastic bottles shaped like flickering flames, painted in fiery hues of red and yellow. To bring them to life, delicate fairy lights adorned each bottle, creating a magical, glowing effect. The second were handwoven “pamaypays” (fans) adorned with cloth in the same fiery colors, complementing the dynamic and synchronized choreography of the performers.

Along Palm Avenue, CSU’s Physical Education students transformed the space into a festival of lights, with each class portraying a different cultural dance

illuminated by vibrant lighting effects.

According to Vanessa Evilla, a second-year P.E. student, conflicting schedules posed a challenge, but with determination, her class managed to create a comprehensive choreography synchronized with dazzling lights. Their hand props and costumes were adorned with flashing neon colors and shimmering fairy lights, further enhancing the visual spectacle.

Voices of the Valley

“Grabe naman ang pa-welcome niyo, ang bongga! Wala kami[ng] masabi, ibang level.” Johanna Carla Padua, a coach from the Nueva Vizcaya State University, expressed her profound astonishment throughout the entire parade experience.

“I [was] expecting na engrande ‘yung opening [program] since well-known ang Cagayan State University pag-dating sa conducting [of] event[s], standard talaga.” Niko Buncad, a Contemporary Dance participant at Isabela State University, expressed satisfaction with the experience.

“In the past CaVRASUC, ‘yung experience ko nung first time, kung icocompare ko ah, this is so much [improved] kasi nai-involve ‘yung mga students.” Stephen Marc Talaver Lontoc, a delegate from the Philippine Normal University North Luzon, expressed his overall positive experience at CSU as the host university. He particularly highlighted the enthusiasm and participation of P.E. students in the opening program.

“Yung accommodation, yung hospitality ng mga taga CSU is very welcoming... Regarding the opening program natin sa CSU Carig, nagulat kami kasi yung preparation, ibang-iba talaga at ang saya. Ang kulay kulay ng lahat.” Jon Denver S. Laguitao, the Student Regent of Quirino State University, expressed his gratitude for the warm welcome extended to their delegates by the university.

As Cagayan State University opens its gates with an explosion of colors, it sets the precedent for the athletic meet. With this in mind, their top mission is to ensure that despite the competitive atmosphere, each delegate, regardless of the state university and college they came from, is welcomed with flashing lights and flying colors and an experience they will never forget. 🦅



PICTURE PAINTED: Breathing visions into life

✦ MICAH ANGGACO AND JEFF LEE YAN JOSE, THE CSU COMMUNICATOR
✦ JEROME RAMIREZ

Cagayan State University (CSU) capped off the Visual Arts competition in the 2025 Cagayan Valley Regional Association of State Universities and Colleges (CaVRASUC) by reaping victories in three out of five categories, marking a season of harvest for its talented artists.

CSU's colors and shades shone vibrantly against five competing state universities and colleges (SUCs) in a display of skill across poster making, painting, charcoal rendering, pencil drawing, and photography.

Meanwhile, Isabela State University (ISU) put up a strong fight, dominating the pencil drawing and painting categories.

Realizing visions

Similarly, Rommel Jacinto, the champion in charcoal rendering, not only fulfilled dreams but also embodied the essence of CaVRASUC 2025, which is deeply rooted in

the theme: "Unity Found in Diversity."

Amid the heat of the competition, lighthearted laughter and friendly banter were exchanged between him and a fellow competitor.

"[Noon] ko lang din siya nakilala and pinahiram niya din kasi ako ng gamit during the contest... we were just complimenting each other po and nakikipag-friend, ganun." Jacinto shared.

Yet, realizing visions did not apply only to the winners but also to every participant, including Shiela Mae Domingo, 3rd Runner-Up in Charcoal Rendering, who reflected on the importance of taking part in the competition.

She shared, "One thing that I would like to highlight in my experience is the courage to show up."

Building friends from foes

A true reflection of the category's theme, "Facing Off as Competitors,

Completing as Friends," Domingo recounted her interactions with fellow participants.





She says, "There's that one participant sa event ko, we had little chikahan related sa guidelines... in my event I have seen how different styles in visual arts come together in that one space from different perspectives, and the very fact that we share the same passion in art serves as a moment for us to be united."

These results poise CSU's continuous commitment in its vision of becoming a university with a global stature in the arts by culturing its students to develop and excel in the field.

Indeed, the candid moments that transpired throughout the competition is the most authentic fruit that this harvest of talents could ever offer; showing that from realizing visions into building friendships, art extends beyond just aesthetics, carrying a greater purpose. ☞



SOCIO-CULTURAL OVERALL RESULT

TEAM	GRAND TOTAL	RANK
 Cagayan State University	120	1
 Isabela State University	104	2
 Philippine Normal University - North Luzon	72	3
 Nueva Vizcaya State University	66	4
 Quirino State University	59	5
 Batanes State College	14	6



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"When we teach a child how to read, we are not just teaching them words. We are giving them a voice, a future, and a chance to dream for a better world," Viernes said, stressing the importance of providing access to quality education for all.

In the final question and answer portion, Rasing delivered a powerful response on dismantling toxic masculinity wherein he firmly believes in the necessity of fostering an environment that respects and values individuals regardless of gender.

"I would encourage everyone to join organizations that will give them the knowledge and give them the energy to respect each and every one of us, whatever we are, and whoever we are. We are here as one. We are already living in a world where everyone needs a space to be loved, to be cared for, and to respect every one of us," Rasing stated as his winning answer.

Viernes also impressed the crowd with her response on the importance of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and when asked about the

initiatives she has taken to contribute to SDG efforts, she emphasized her dedication to her advocacy.

"Just like my advocacy, I wanted to see a world where every child is not being silenced by their inability to read. And I hope that in the near future, we can achieve all the SDGs because I, myself, do everything," Viernes answered.

In an exclusive interview with the CSU Communicator, both titleholders say that there is still a lot to improve for their upcoming national pageant as they are now set to represent Region 2 for the National State Colleges and Universities Athletic Association that will be held in Camiguin Island in April.

"I consider myself as an art needing polishing and I know for a fact that I have so much to improve on," Viernes said.

Meanwhile, Cagayan State University's Bryan Jser Sanchez and Quirino State University's Aianne Shannelle Dacanay claimed first runners-up while Jay Denver Isidro of Nueva Vizcaya State University and Ariete Mallillin of Isabela State University were crowned as second-runner up.

Rasing and Viernes Take Lead, Bring SDGs to Forefront

Mr. Roden Rasing of Isabela State University (ISU) and Ms. Lovely Viernes of Philippine Normal University (PNU) Northern Luzon demonstrated excellence and stood out among their competitors for their stance on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) during the search for Mr. and Ms. Cagayan Valley Regional Association of State Universities and Colleges (CaVRASUC) 2025, inspiring the event with a shared vision of diversity and excellence.

Ms. Viernes highlighted the significance of unity regardless of differences in status, political views, and cultural backgrounds. She believes that unity is important for progress and that Cagayanos unite out of love for their homeland and in their collective efforts to promote the region in the best way possible.

When asked about "excellence in action," Ms. Viernes responded that it is "doing every excellent thing you can do in every action that you will do." As the newly crowned Ms. CaVRASUC 2025, she hopes to embody the excellence that Region 2 citizens uphold.

Meanwhile, Ms. Viernes has witnessed

firsthand the struggles children face when learning how to read, fueling her dedication to advocate for Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4—which aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education for all. She also added that everyone must join hands to lead the change.

Ms. Viernes firmly believes that "reading is more than just a skill — it is a gateway to knowledge, opportunity, and empowerment," while also emphasizing that "no one must be left wandering in the dark when the world of words can lighten their path."

Reflecting on her commitment to SDG 4, she shared, "The pages of the future are still waiting to be written, and I refuse to let illiteracy hold the pen."

Meanwhile, Mr. Roden Rasing delivered a captivating response about advocating for gender equality.


"As a student leader, it is my responsibility to advocate for gender equality and redefine masculinity. I encourage everyone to join organizations that provide a safe space where individuals feel loved, cared for, and

respected," he stated when asked how he would dismantle toxic masculinity and promote SDG 5 — Gender Equality in schools and communities.

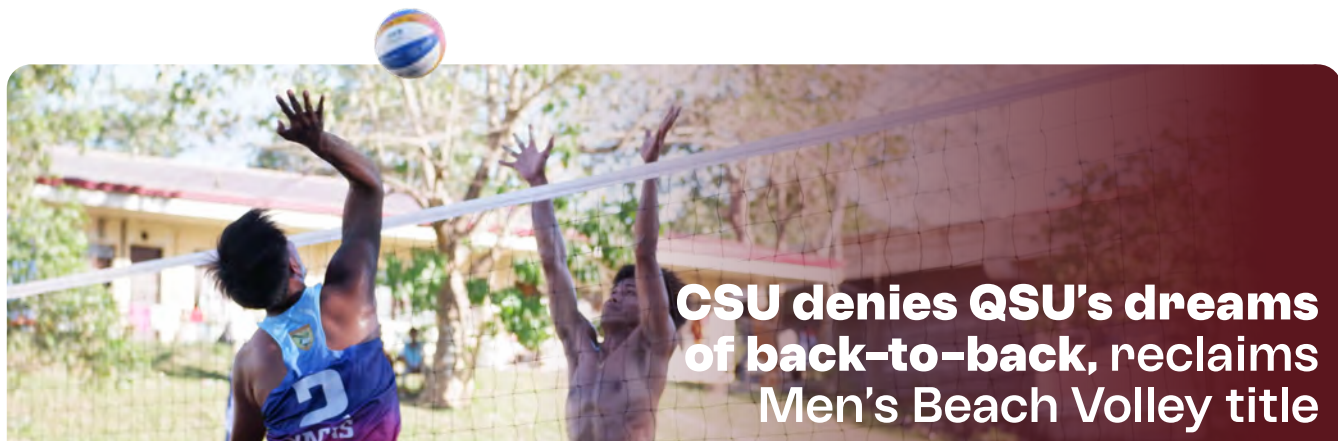
Beyond gender equality, Rasing also advocates for SDGs 3, 4, 5, and 17, which focus on mental health awareness, academic excellence, inclusivity, partnerships, healthy living, confidence, sportsmanship, and community unity.

Promoting unity among students from different backgrounds in Cagayan Valley, Rasing proudly remarked that he is a purpose-driven man full of potential, and he will encourage everyone to grow, develop, and share their knowledge to achieve unity.

As Mr. CaVRASUC 2025, Rasing is prepared to represent Region 2, declaring: "I will give my all in representing our region, fueled by the unwavering support of our people."

With unity in diversity, Mr. Roden Rasing and Ms. Lovely Viernes will represent Cagayan Valley in the upcoming National State Universities and Colleges Athletics Association competition at Camiguin Island. 





CSU denies QSU's dreams of back-to-back, reclaims Men's Beach Volley title

SPICED SMASH. CSU's Yacas executes a faint during their fiery championship match at the CSU Carig Beach Volleyball Court, March 26.

📍 JAN KHAIZEN CARPIO, THE CSU PROMETHEAN
📍 MARIE ANGELA ZALUN, THE CSU PROMETHEAN

CSU's Raymarc Balitan and Jericho Yacas ended the defending champions QSU's Jefferson Bulalayao and Paul Arzadon's hopes of winning back-to-back titles after edging them out in two highly-contested sets, 2-0, in the CaVRASUC 2025 Men's Beach Volleyball Finals at the CSU Beach Volleyball Court, March 25 afternoon.

After suffering defeat in last year's finals, the CSU pair exacted its revenge in an intense match against QSU, 21-9, 28-26.

"Lamang kami sa pagiging eager kasi gusto namin bumawi mula sa last year tapos homecourt pa namin, said Yacas. ("We had the edge in eagerness because we wanted to redeem ourselves from last year's defeat, plus we had the homecourt advantage.")

In a nerve-wracking second set that saw seven intense deuces, CSU refused to back down, outlasting QSU, 28-26, en route to a successful Finals redemption.

CSU had their first championship point via Balitan's feint I, forcing QSU to call timeout, 20-19. After the timeout QSU pushed the 2nd set to their first deuce after Bulalayao tips it in.

The battle raged on as both teams traded

blows, pushing the set to seven intense deuces and seven championship points at 27-26. But in the end, it was CSU that prevailed, with Yacas delivering a decisive spike to seal the nail-biting 28-26 victory and clinch the match.

"Pinanood namin game nila tapos nag-focus kami doon, more on dropshots kami tapos sa harap at likod lang yung target, nag-focus lang din kami sa goal, added Yacas. ("We closely studied their game and focused on our strategy—using more drop shots aimed at the front and back areas—while keeping our goal to win in mind.")

The CSU combo had an early outburst in the first set, taking a six point lead and forcing QSU to call timeout, 12-6. The duo sustained their energy on the defensive and offensive end, limiting QSU to only nine points to end the set, 21-9.

The second set turned into a strategic battle, with QSU turning up their game a notch to cling to a two-point lead, prompting CSU to call a timeout at 15-13. CSU responded with a three-point rally to retake the lead, forcing QSU to regroup with a timeout of their own at 16-15.

Following the timeout, the match became

a nail-biting exchange as both teams refused to back down, with CSU inching ahead to their first championship point at 20-19, forcing QSU to burn their final timeout in a desperate bid to stay alive, but despite QSU's valiant effort to drag the match to seven intense deuces, CSU held firm and iced the victory with an epic 28-26 finish.

After the loss, QSU's Arzadon admitted that fatigue and weather had caught up with them as they had to play two gruelling matches which included taking down eventual 3rd placer NVSU before facing CSU for a Finals rematch.

"May factor yung fatigue kasi 3rd game na namin today, kulang din kami sa training at hindi sanay sa init dito," said Arzadon. ("Fatigue was a factor since it was our third game of the day. We also lacked training and weren't accustomed to the heat.")

"Since last year ko na ay magtrain nalang ako ng juniors namin na babawi next year," he added. ("Since its my last year playing, I'm going to teach my juniors to avenge us next year.")

CSU finally got their revenge after losing to QSU in the finals last year. 🏆



Tabunan, Mahor fires their way to the top, hit national tourney

📍 PAUL VINCENT MARGALLO, THE CSU PROMETHEAN

TUGUEGARAO CITY – Hitting the mark once again, Quirino State University's Mark Darren Tabunan outshot the competition to secure his third straight National State College and Universities Athletic Association (SCUAA) ticket with his final score of 548 in day three of the 2025 Cagayan Valley Regional Association of State Universities and Colleges (CaVRASUC) Games 70 meters Men's archery competition at CSU's archery range, March 26, 2025.

Tabunan closed the day with scores of 43-60, 33-60, 42-60, 50-60, 46-60, and 50-60, finishing the second day of the tournament just 13 points ahead of Cagayan State University's Aven Josh Lim, who lined up 535 points.

The leading marksman expressed his satisfaction with his performance and it has met his expectations despite the short time allotted for practice when asked about his performance and preparation for this tournament.

"Para sa preparation ko, hindi ko pa sure kasi busy din sa academics pero i'll make sure to train for the upcoming tournament and i-mamanage ko nalang time ko," Tabunan added

Meanwhile, She-sharpshooter Lexa Belle Mahor of NVSU ruled the range for the women's division with an end score of 442 points, 106 points clear from fellow National qualifier, ISU's Syra Jane Singueo,

held earlier that day.

Mahor shot 49, 17, 44, 39, 46, and 45 on top of her 202 points yesterday to fine her way to the top and secure the top step.

"Di ko maisip na ganun kataas yung gap pero hindi dahil dun eh magpapa kampante na'ko," the archer expressed when interviewed.

Cagayan State University's local bowman Aven Josh Lim finished in second place in men's division with his 535 points broken from 43-60, 35-60, 46-60, 48-60, 48-60, and 52-60 added to his 263 points drawn yesterday.

The final two slots for men are filled in by Nueva Vizcaya's Rowen Jay Ballesteros as he edged out Isabela State University's Joshua Sebastian only by a point, 507 points to 506 points respectively.

Meanwhile, fellow Isabelinas, Ronabelle Tangonan and Pauleen Perang completed the final two slots for the women's division with their quivers stacked at 284 points and 270 point arrowheads respectively.

National qualifiers are determined by their end scores after two sets of firing where four from each division with the most points are selected to compete and represent the region in the upcoming national tournament.

The battle for the gold in both men and women's individual division along with the team and mixed team competition will be fought tomorrow morning where archers will fight it out to the end. 🏆

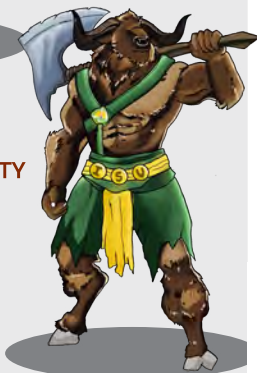
📍 CAZMIR MADDUMA, THE CSU PROMETHEAN

THE VALLEY'S WARRIORS



**CAGAYAN
STATE
UNIVERSITY**

**ISABELA
STATE
UNIVERSITY**



**NUEVA
VIZCAYA
STATE
UNIVERSITY**



**BATANES
STATE
COLLEGE**



**PHILIPPINE
NORMAL
UNIVERSITY
NORTH LUZON**



**QUIRINO
STATE
UNIVERSITY**



Augille-AI Pascua



CSU overwhelms QSU in CODM Men's, Women's championship comp, 3-0

↑ RAFAEL L. FUNTANAR JR., THE CSU PROMETHEAN
☞ CLAIRE DORIA, THE CSU PROMETHEAN

Cagayan State University (CSU) men's and women's squads proved themselves formidable and a team to beat, outplaying both teams of Quirino State University (QSU), 3-0, in a championship game of Call of Duty Mobile (CODM) at the College of Information and Computing Sciences (CICS) building, CSU-Carig Campus, March 26.

The men's winning team consisted of Rafael Mark Joshua M. Murillo, Christian C. Roc, Alrich Cole P. Pattaguan, Harvey Kim A. Galano, Nico Adrian E. Acosta, and Reymund P. Diego, who was also hailed the Most Valuable Player (MVP) of the game.

Displaying an excellent map control, Diego accumulated a kill-death-assist (KDA) ratio of 37-15-8 in Map 1: Summit, and 16-3-2 in Map 2: Express.

"Very challenging talaga 'tong game na to. Sumasali kami sa mga clans at nakikipaglaban din kami sa ibang clans para mapabuti pa namin yung laro namin. At kanina, may teamwork kami at nagresult siya sa pagkapanalo namin, we are proud to represent CSU in Camiguin," said the MVP. ["This game is very challenging. We join clans and also fight other clans to further enhance our game. During the game, we had teamwork which resulted to our championship and we are proud to represent CSU in Camiguin."]

While ensuring their win with a clean meet in Map 3: Raid, CSU's team was declared winner by default as QSU used a restricted equipment, OS Sparrow, as per the instruction of the general rules of the management team.

Meanwhile, maintaining dominance over the game, CSU's women team toppled QSU in a championship victory, 3-0, winning the Map 1: Hacienda, 1-0, by default due to QSU's accidental usage of restricted equipment, Shock RC.

The team composed of Micah Soriano, Joena Saquing, Nicole Cabayu, Zychie Agatep, Glesie Jean Lasam, Apole Kate Fabros will also represent CSU for the next level in Camiguin.

Showing off their mastery of the game, Fabros and Lasam were the MVPs of the Map 2: Firing Range and Map 3: Raid, exhibiting a neat KDA ratio of 9-4-2 and 24-4-8.

"Isang malaking karangalan talaga ito sa amin kasi nadehado kami sa requirements namin sa pagpunta dito but despite that, naihabol naman namin kahit na sumabay pa yung prelim exams noon at ginawa talaga namin yung best namin para manalo," said Team Leader Micah Soriano. ["This is truly a big achievement for us because we had trouble with our requirements for this competition but despite that, we still made it on time even though the preliminary exams came along (with the preparation of our requirements)."]

On the other hand, QSU's women team leader, Kyla Daniela Buccat, said that this is really challenging, especially fighting against only one opponent.

"Masaya, challenging siya lalo na isa lang ang kalaban. Kanina, malakas talaga sila. Pero nag-enjoy at nilaban naman namin," said Buccat. ["We're happy, and this is challenging especially that there is only one opponent. But still, we enjoyed and played the game well."] ☞

CSU upends QSU in squeaker MLBB Men's semis, 2-1

↑ DARYLL JONES LACUESTA, THE CSU PROMETHEAN

TUGUEGARAO CITY - Cagayan State University (CSU) Men's Mobile Legends: Bang Bang (MLBB) squad sealed their finals seat after outplaying Quirino State University (QSU) in a thrilling best-of-three semi-final game series held at the College of Information and Computing Sciences (CICS) Building, March 26 afternoon.

CSU's jungler Kyle John "Demonkyle" Ayun-ayun, and gold laner Khasmeer Jerome "Merah Murung" Birzuela displayed their role mastery and level-headedness despite unpredictable but reckless aggressions thrown out by QSU, carrying the team until their eventual crucial match victory.

CSU imposed their will in the first game, with Demonkyle spearheading the team with his hero, Suyou, to an overwhelming 8,000-gold early game advantage within six minutes of the game. The first game easily ended in a commanding 19-4 victory for CSU, with Demonkyle's Suyou finishing in an impressive 6-1-6 KDA.

QSU, however, answered back on the second game, taking all early game objectives and

overpowering CSU with the irksome Zhuxin-Hylos combo and a well-farmed Paolo "SUPER PAOLO" Lorenzo's 5-0-6-KDA Brody, ending the match in mere 12 minutes, eleven to one.

After a tough loss in Game 2, CSU solidified their hero picks in Game 3, countering Seiji and SUPER PAOLO's deadly Diggle-Freya combo with Ackel Jay "Xenu" Correa's Valentina and Denz Ian "fufu" Ablier's Hylos.

The do-or-die thriller saw intense back-and-forth action, with QSU briefly seizing a midgame edge. However, Merah Murung's Moskov displayed a stellar performance after taking tower objectives amid skirmishes and recording a triple kill that exposed QSU's vulnerable base, ultimately crushing their hopes of a national ticket.

QSU ended their run as 4th placer after losing in a one-game match for the 3rd placer against Isabela State University (ISU).

Meanwhile, CSU will face Nueva Vizcaya State University (NVSU) in the championship series to be held on March 27, still at CICS Building. ☞

CSU's Women's Sepak Takraw bets secure championship title

EVOL ANGELEE GAZZINGAN, THE CSU PROMETHEAN

Mia Claire Palwa, Jemayca Cusipag, and Jenifer Fernandez of Cagayan State University (CSU) pulled off a statement win, walloping Isabela State University (ISU), 2-0, to claim the championship title on the third day of the 2025 CaVRASUC Sepak Takraw tournament at CSU Carig.

Even with the luxury of a twice-to-beat safety net, CSU did not fall prey to complacency,

sweeping ISU in straight sets to rule the tournament.

Palwa, CSU's captain and offensive gem, stood out, changing past rivals for a decisive 15-7 first-set victory.

The second set turned into a nail-biting showdown, with both teams locked at 14—all in a race to 17. However, CSU refused to waver,

showcasing poise under pressure to edge out ISU, 17-15, and cement their place atop the podium.

"Sobrang grateful po na makiki-nationals kami. Ang preparation lang po namin is practice, nagtulungan kami at inayos yung chemistry namin sa paglalaro," Palwa shared. [We are very grateful to be participating in the nationals. Our only preparation was practice—we helped each other and strengthened our chemistry on the court.]

CSU head coach Andy Catulin expressed his pride in the team's resilience, hailing their victory as a triumphant comeback after the challenges posed by the pandemic, reaffirming CSU's reputation in women's sepak takraw.

ISU settled for silver, while QSU rounded out the podium with a third-place finish.



JAN LORD PAGULAYAN, THE CSU PROMETHEAN

CSU eyes title clash with ISU, armed with a twice-to-beat edge

EVOL ANGELEE GAZZINGAN, THE CSU PROMETHEAN

Showcasing unparalleled coordination and skills, Cagayan State University (CSU) Men's Sepak Takraw clinched the top seed in the semifinals, gaining a crucial twice-to-beat advantage in their pursuit of the Men's Regu championship.

CSU's impressive skill and teamwork were on full display throughout the elimination round breezing past Nueva Vizcaya State University (NVSU) in straight sets, 15-8, 15-12 and 15-9, 15-11.

The momentum carried over against Isabela State University (ISU), where CSU claimed a hard-fought 2-1 victory.

ISU's John Smith Malabad opened strong, showcasing his signature cartwheel kick to power ISU to an 8-15 win in the first regu. However, CSU answered back with authority, bouncing back in the second regu with a 2-1 set triumph (10-15, 15-4, 15-7).

With the match hanging in the balance,

CSU captain Mark Mel Antonio delivered the final blow, unleashing his own signature cartwheel kick in the decisive third regu. CSU left no room for a comeback, dismantling ISU with a commanding 15-3 win to seal the match and to earn themselves a double-elimination advantage heading to the Finals.

"Masaya din kami kasi nakuha namin ang twice-to-beat advantage, saka kahit natalo yung isang regu namin, sa huli naipanalapa rin namin. Pangarap din kasi namin makapunta sa national, ngayon lang kasi makakasali ulit ang CSU sa nationals," said CSU Tekong Ejay Dela Cruz. ("We're thrilled to secure the twice-to-beat advantage, and even though one of our teams fell short, we still pulled off the win. Competing at nationals has always been our dream, and this marks CSU's long-awaited return to the big stage.")

"Masaya din kami kasi nakuha namin ang twice-to-beat advantage, saka kahit natalo

yung isang regu namin, sa huli naipanalapa rin namin. Pangarap din kasi namin makapunta sa national, ngayon lang kasi makakasali ulit ang CSU sa nationals," Ejay Dela Cruz, CSU Tekong, stated.

("We're also happy because we got the twice-to-beat advantage, and even though one of our teams lost, we still won in the end. It's also our dream to go to the nationals, and this is the time that CSU will participate in the nationals again.")

Despite falling to CSU, ISU remains in contention for the title, albeit needing to win twice in a row, after securing a semi-final victory over Quirino State University (QSU) in straight sets (15-6, 15-3), relegating QSU to the bronze medal.

ISU will have a shot at redemption when they face CSU once again in the championship match on March 27 at the CSU Sepak Takraw Court.



JAN LORD PAGULAYAN, THE CSU PROMETHEAN

CSU bats ticket to Men's Baseball finals after fending off ISU, 5-2

PAUL VINCENT MARGALLO, THE CSU PROMETHEAN

TUGUEGARAO CITY – Enduring the scorching heat, Cagayan State University's Red Hot Maroons stayed undefeated, walking off Isabela State University five to two within five innings to claim their finals ticket in game four of the Cagayan Valley Regional Athletic Association of State Universities and Colleges (CaVRASUC) 2025 Men's Baseball Tournament at CSU-Carig Diamond Court on March 26.

CSU's pitcher Fantonia led the team to stop the opening drought and batted the first of four straight runs in the second inning, ending the first two frames four to zero in favor of the home team heroes.

Third base maroon fielder Pascual delivered his team's last score as he and catcher Ray worked together to run one last point and stopped Isabelino's last hurrah of two runs, ending the match five to two.

CSU's coach Erick Masinag shared that there are some adjustments to be

made, and they will need to look into it, when interviewed on his thoughts on how the team played during the match.

"Pero I'm happy with their performance at the moment. It's not perfect, but it made us win," coach Masinag stated in an exclusive interview.

Meanwhile, Quirino State University tagged out Nueva Vizcaya State University crushing them 16-5 in four innings and improved their record to one win and one loss, held earlier that day.

QSU remained unfazed despite NVSU's explosive five-run start in the opening frame, countering with six runs of their own to take a narrow lead after two innings.

From there, QSU took full control, blanking NVSU while adding five more runs across the third and final inning to seal the game at 16-5.

ISU will face QSU to keep their championship hopes alive where the match will be held tomorrow where the winner will face the now-waiting Cagayan State University.





JAN LORD PAGULAYAN, THE CSU PROMETHEAN

CSU overpowers QSU, retains Women's beach volley crown

EVOL ANGELEE GAZZINGAN, THE CSU PROMETHEAN

CSU's Claudette Carag and Hance Bangbang combo unleashed deadly serves with tricky placements to overwhelm QSU's Micaella Gamay and Karylle Pigao pair, 2-0, in the CAVRASUC Women's Beach Volleyball Finals, on the CSU Beach Volleyball Court, this afternoon.

The CSU duo accumulated a total of 17 service aces, pummeling the defense of QSU and completing the title defense, 21-12, 21-11.

"Nakatarget yung service namin dahil napanood namin sila alam namin pano laro nila, kilala din kasi ang carig sa service, (We targeted our service because we saw how they play and CSU-Carig is also known for its serves)", said Carag team captain of the team.

QSU put up a valiant effort, but failed to generate enough offense, resulting in a loss against the crowd favorites CSU.

"Kulang kami sa training, busy yung mga players sa acads at naninibago sa init, (We didn't have enough training because the players were busy with their academics; we were also not used to the heat)", said Mary Joy Gumayagay coach of QSU.

QSU started hot, taking the lead early and punishing CSU for the gaps in their defense, 6-4, CSU fought back with a three-point surge to

momentarily pull ahead, but QSU answered right back with a three-point run of their own to regain the lead, 9-7.

CSU picked up the pace and went on scoring seven straight points via Carag's service and spikes, 14-9. QSU cut the lead down to two but Bangbang went on tear scoring five out of seven CSU points to end the 1st set, 21-12.

The second set looked familiar as CSU made six straight points, half of them coming from service aces, 6-1. QSU tried catching up after cutting the lead to two points due to Pigao's aces, 6-4.

CSU led by as many as five points but QSU was relentless and closed the gap to two points forcing CSU to call timeout, 13-11. After the break CSU went on an onslaught not letting QSU score and went on to make eight straight points to secure the gold medal match and defend their title, 21-11.

"Pressured kamin dahil lagi nagchachampion seniors namin, (We were feeling pressured because our seniors win the championship every time)", added Carag.

Despite losing to CSU, QSU improved their previous record by winning this year's silver medal.

NVSU retained their standing after losing to QSU in the match before the finals.

CSU will represent the region for the upcoming nationals. ⚡

CSU nets late goal in football, snatches 1-0 win over ISU

TYRONE GABRIELLE PANGILINAN, THE CSU PROMETHEAN

The game was evenly matched until the last 20 minutes when Ronald Bautista of Cagayan State University (CSU) delivered a game-winning goal against Isabela State University (ISU), 1-0, to remain in championship contention in the Cagayan Valley Regional Association of State Universities and Colleges (CaVRASUC) Meet 2025, Football at the CSU Carig Field, March 26 morning.

From kickoff, both teams engaged in a well-pitched battle, displaying tactical discipline and sharp counterattacks. CSU and ISU traded possessions and tested each other's defenses with relentless pressing and quick transitions.

Jefferson Mabborang and Dane Siriban led the charge early on for ISU, setting up scoring opportunities with well-placed through balls and precision strikes that constantly challenged CSU's backline.

CSU retaliated with an aggressive attacking display, utilizing quick link-up play and set-piece deliveries. ISU's defense held firm, however, denying clear-cut chances for victory as the teams continued with tiresome back-and-forths.

As the second half progressed, both sides ramped up their attacks, engaging in a tense exchange of counterattacks and near misses that kept the match on a knife's edge.

With time winding down and the score still level, Bautista capitalized on a defensive fault, unleashing inside the box and firing a clinical finish past the ISU keeper to finally put CSU ahead, 1-0.

Despite a late surge from ISU, CSU's defense held strong, clearing dangerous crosses and absorbing pressure to protect their narrow lead until the final whistle.

With this hard-fought triumph, CSU remains in title contention, keeping their championship hopes alive after a determined performance. ⚡

Consina-Calma battery powers BSC past QSU, 11-4

SHANIAH MARIEL DV. MAGUDDAYAO & FLORIMAE DOMINIQUE TULIAO, THE CSU PROMETHEAN

Batanes State College (BSC) continued their dominant run on the softball diamond, outplaying Quirino State University (QSU) behind the stellar battery duo of Therese Consina and Christine Calma in an 11-4 win at the Cagayan Valley Regional Athletics Association of State Universities and Colleges (CaVRASUC) Meet 2025 on March 26.

BSC came out swinging, capitalizing on QSU's defensive miscues to plate six runs in the opening inning, as Consina set the tone with back-to-back RBI hits while Calma anchored the defense behind the plate, leaving QSU scrambling for answers and scoreless, 6-0.

Unwilling to go silently into the day, QSU shored up their defense in the second inning, allowing just one run while preventing BSC from stretching their early lead. However, BSC

kept the pressure on, with Consina delivering pinpoint pitches and Calma controlling the game behind the dish, denying QSU any scoring opportunities.

BSC's defensive stand carried into the third inning despite briefly playing a woman down due to injury, while their offense remained sharp, adding four more runs before QSU finally found their rhythm at the plate and brought in three runs to cut the deficit.

QSU's pitcher, Agron, stepped up in the later innings, fending off BSC's offense in the fourth with a clean 0-0 frame and limiting them to a single run in the fifth. However, QSU could not convert on their defensive stops, failing to generate enough runs to make a late push, allowing BSC to get away with the victory.

Meanwhile, Nueva Vizcaya State University (NVSU) notched a win by default against QSU, finishing the day with a 1-1 record. ⚡



JAN LORD PAGULAYAN, THE CSU PROMETHEAN



RUBY BINARAO, THE CSU PROMETHEAN

CSU's Men, Women forces dominate futsal

RAFAEL L. FUNTANAR, JR., GWENETH PABLO CSU PROMETHEAN

Kicking their way to the championship title, Cagayan State University (CSU) solidified their dominance at CSU-Carig's Sunken Court, beating Isabela State University (ISU) men's and Nueva Vizcaya State University (NVSU) women's team during the inaugural of Futsal competition in Cagayan Valley Regional Association of State Universities and Colleges (CaVRASUC) 2025, March 26.

In the men's division, CSU and ISU were the sole contenders in a best-of-three series, but CSU wasted no time asserting dominance, sweeping ISU in Games 1 and 2, 2-0.

The remarkable feat were exhibited by outfielders Mark Contaio (12), Jasper Tanguilan (19), Angelo Balaqui (5), Jan Michael Valino (13) and goalkeeper, John Carlo Ferrer (1) whose defensive prowess pitched in greatly to the

team's effort to win, not giving a chance for NVSU to score a single goal.

Never going easy to their opponent, CSU's team kept the field under control, frustrating ISU with a clean sweep victory, displaying a remarkable walkover, 11-0 in two consecutive matches.

Meanwhile, CSU's women's team put their dominance on full display, toppling Nueva Vizcaya State University (NVSU) 8-2 in their final matchup, highlighted by Jamica Baligod's decisive three-goal haul.

Braving the scorching heat of the sun, the squad, composed of Klareth Aguisanda (5), Jamaica Baligod (9), Apreal Putong Anog (8), Jedi Lei Candelario (13), and goalkeeper Valiren Juan (4) turned their dream into reality, earning the right to represent CSU at the nationals.

"Dito nakasalalay ang lahat ng pinagpaguran namin, lalo na sa aming teams at big achievement din po talaga ito sa amin. Every day training po kami...balance po sa acads and training...although magkakaiba po kami ng campus since yung iba po sa amin is galing Andrews at galing Carig, still, nandoon pa rin po yung chemistry namin... kasi po sama sama pa rin po kaming nate-training tuwing weekends po.", said Baligod for the whole team.

"[This is a major achievement for our team, as it reflects all the hard work we've put into training. We make sure to balance our daily training with academics, and even though we come from different campuses—some from Andrews and others from Carig—we still maintain strong chemistry because we train together every weekend,]"

As a force to be reckoned with, CSU's women's team proved their dominance by battling through the elimination and semifinal rounds, outclassing Isabela State University (ISU) and Quirino State University (QSU) with commanding victories of 8-5 and 13-0, respectively. ⚡



DANIEL BAUTISTA, THE CSU PROMETHEAN

CSU Men's 3x3 stands atop 2nd day Elims

JAN KHAIZEN CARPIO, THE CSU PROMETHEAN

Cagayan State University (CSU) finished the second day of eliminations with two wins after defeating Nueva Vizcaya State University (NVSU) and Quirino State University (QSU) and up their standing, 2-1, in the Men's 3x3 Basketball, held at Red Eagle Gymnasium, March 26.

CSU came out firing behind Danga, quickly establishing a three-point lead, 5-2, as NVSU struggled to keep pace. Encinares and Caranguian then took over, sinking three two-pointers and finishing two layups to stretch the lead to eight, forcing NVSU to burn a timeout at 12-4.

Despite efforts to regroup, NVSU faltered against CSU's relentless defense, committing costly turnovers. Though they mounted a late rally, it wasn't enough, as CSU held firm to register their first win of the tournament, 16-13.

Moreover, ISU, who went undefeated yesterday, suffered its first loss today as Batanes State College continues their hot streak, 16-12.

ISU came out balling as they started the game scoring five straight points against BSC's lineup, 5-1, but BSC picked up the pace and quickly tied the game, 5-5.

The two teams went toe-to-toe with each other, exchanging buckets and good defense until the last 2 minutes, 12-12.

BSC exploded in the final two minutes,

scoring four unanswered points while locking down ISU with stifling defense to snap their streak and seal the victory, 16-12.

CSU opened strong with three unanswered points, but QSU quickly responded with a three-point run of their own to level the score at 3-3, setting the stage for a tightly contested battle as both teams traded baskets in a back-and-forth showdown.

CSU came out ahead after erupting for five points in the five minute mark, 15-10, QSU tried to come back but CSU's Encinares layup and sealed the deal as CSU won their second game of the day, 16-14.

Further, CSU lady ballers dominated the paint to power past NVSU, 19-13, improving to a clean 2-0 slate.

Aubrey Kryl Sedano of CSU loaded up wildly on her offense, connecting drive shots to help her team snatch the lead, 8-7.

Firing beyond the arc, Sedano caught fire in the succeeding minutes to put NVSU's defense to test, 14-8, forcing their opponents to commit turnovers.

CSU's defense ruined NVSU's game plan leaving them overwhelmed as Sedano attacked the rim before sealing the match with an easy drive.

ISU, on the other hand, claimed their first win of the eliminations through a win by default after a no-show by QSU lady hoopers. ⚡



ISU Women's, Men's Volleyball advance to finals

JEREMY JIM OLALDE, THE CSU PROMETHEAN
 DANIEL BAUTISTA, THE CSU PROMETHEAN

Isabela State University (ISU) women's and men's volleyball teams stunned defending champions Cagayan State University (CSU) to secure two finals tickets held at Red Eagle Gymnasium, March 26.

The ISU spikers kept their slate unstained in the match despite their opponents' home-court advantage, upsetting both teams of the host university.

Trailing behind a two-set deficit, the ISU volleybelles turned the tide with a defensive masterclass, cruising in the last 3 sets to roar back into the game and deliver a massive upset against a CSU squad that was eyeing a trip back to the finals.

CSU kept committing unforced errors in the succeeding set, making ISU's lead balloon to a double-digit to tie the set to 2 apiece, entering the decider.

Denying CSU any semblance of life they

showed in the first two sets, ISU tightened their grip of the momentum as hitter Agustin hammered four consecutive spikes before delivering the final blow—a powerful kill—to complete the stunning 3-2 comeback victory (27-29, 15-25, 25-13, 25-15, 15-9).

"Teamwork, lakas ng loob, at tiwala lang po sa teammates ang pinanghahawakan ko para maipanalo ang laro. Hindi naman lahat ng nandito ay mga tiga-CSU kasi nandito 'yung mga tiga-ISU na sumusuporta sa amin kaya naitawid pa rin po," said Agustin. ("Teamwork, courage, and trust to my teammates are what I am holding on to win the game. Not all people here hail from CSU because there are people from ISU right here supporting us, so we made it.")

Meanwhile, ISU women's head coach Benjie Pascua credited his squad's tight defense in the last three sets, which sparked their thrilling

fightback.

"Palagi kong sinasabi sa kanila na defense lang at atake kung kinailangan. Pagdating ng third set until decision set, nag step-up naman sila sa defense," said Pascua. ("I always remind them to focus on defense and attack when necessary. From the third set onward to the deciding set, they stepped up their defensive game.")

Furthermore, the men's team of ISU prevented CSU from scoring a set as they blanked last year's gold medalist, 3-0, for a finals berth.

ISU smashers remained unbothered from the 3-point lead of CSU in the opening set, 16-19, improving their offense for a 9-0 bomb off solid attacks to close the set with a 25-19 win.

Scoring from the opponent's multiple errors, ISU managed to widen the gap and eventually clinched their second win, 25-20.

CSU, NVSU conquer Chess Women's, Men's tilt

RUEL BEN RAMOS, THE CSU PROMETHEAN

Three chesswomen of Cagayan State University will proceed to the Nationals as they claimed victories in a five-round round-robin tournament, outsmarting their opponents in their respective boards.

Board 2's Rica Johniza Ignes and Board 3's Honey Grace Angely Taguinod ended their run with unstained slates while Board 4's Maricris Gaducio only took a hit from ISU, scoring 3/4 points, leaving NVSU and ISU competing for silver, with the former prevailing.

Moreover, Jan Veniz Pugong of NVSU

captured Gold after sweeping her competitors over the board, scoring 3.5/4 (three wins, a draw, and no losses)

Meanwhile in the Men's Division, Board 1's Ramil Carreon and Board 4's Jefrey Donato, CSU and QSU's respective lone champions, unleashed their tactical prowess to add gold in their respective university's medal haul.

Carreon, a seasoned player, showed no weakness, scoring an impressive 4/4. Donato outplayed his opponents to pocket Gold in Men's Board 4, while NVSU and ISU left CSU behind for 4th place in a three-way Armageddon

tiebreak, securing the Silver and Bronze medals, respectively.

Additionally, NVSU capped two golds as the lethal Padilla duo, Jordan Padilla of Board 2 and Adrian Paul Padilla of Board 3 clinched Gold, both obtaining a score of 3.5/4, each drawing against ISU.

Following this, NVSU was crowned as the best performing Men's team whilst CSU was crowned as the best performing Women's team.

The Gold medalists are set to compete in the National State Universities and Colleges Athletic Association Games in Camiguin Island.

CSU Men's, ISU Women's dominate in Table Tennis finals

LHYCA JOI AGRESSOR, THE CSU PROMETHEAN

The Cagayan State University (CSU) women's team and the Isabela State University (ISU) men's team delivered electrifying performances, dominating their respective singles and doubles finals in table tennis at Robinsons Place, Tuguegarao City, on March 26.

CSU's Ainara Gonzales unleashed a relentless offensive assault in the women's first singles, outpacing ISU's Ginselle Ferrer with a commanding 3-1 victory to take home CSU's first gold.

Gonzales, the women's first singles gold medalist, acknowledged the intense competition.

"Hindi ko po inexpect kasi tatlong araw lang po ang preparation namin since prelims po last week. At kanina, medyo malapit lang po yung scores ko sa kalaban kasi magaling po talaga yung ISU sa pagpalo at ang lakas ng QSU rin po kanina sa pag-set. Mahina po kasi ako sa pimples na kalaban kaya masaya po ako na natalo ko sila," she said. (I did not expect to win because I only had three whole days of preparation since we had our prelims last

week. And a while ago, I had close scores with my co-competitors because ISU's contingent was really skilled and QSU's had strong serves. I am weak at opponents utilizing pimples, so I was elated that I defeated them.)

Securing another gold for CSU is Annalyn Umayan, overpowering ISU's Vienna Jovellana in second singles through straight games, 3-0.

Jenjen Tabao and Yen Pangaramu's tandem exhibited excellent coordination, securing a 3-1 victory against ISU's pair for the host's third gold.

Moreover, Hanz Jurielle Lim of CSU demonstrated varied attacks to claim men's first singles gold, outplaying ISU's Kevin Asuncion, 3-1.

ISU's Belin Pascual prevented a CSU sweep by defeating CSU's Mark Joseph, 2-1 (11-3, 11-4, 7-11) in men's second singles, marking ISU's sole victory in the singles finals.

Overcoming a first-set loss, ISU's Joel Manubal and Mark Bryan Diam showcased resilience, to subdue CSU's Cheszer Balisi and Sander Reginald, 2-1 (11-3, 5-11, 13-11), successfully earning their second gold.



WILLIAM FURIGAY, THE CSU PROMETHEAN



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RUBY BINARAO, THE CSU PROMETHEAN

HARDCOURT DOMINATION

ISU Men's and Women's Teams Storm into Finals with Twice-to-Beat Advantage

JEREMY JIM OLALDE, THE CSU PROMETHEAN

Isabela State University (ISU) asserted dominance in both men's and women's basketball, swishing a twice-to-beat advantage in the finals after crushing host school Cagayan State University (CSU) in back-to-back matchups at Red Eagle Gymnasium on March 26.

The ISU men's squad embarrassed the reigning champions with a commanding 23-point rout, 70-47, in Game 3, staying unbeaten through the elimination and semifinal rounds.

CSU came out aggressive, relying on quick footwork and tight coordination to gain a slight first-half edge, but ISU found its rhythm late in the second quarter, knocking down perimeter shots to take a slim 32-30 lead at halftime.

After the break, ISU turned up the heat, tearing through CSU's defense with a relentless 19-point surge in the third, while suffocating their rivals to just nine points, widening the gap to 51-39.

Team chemistry was down-and-out for CSU in the last quarter allowing ISU to exploit their disarray—converting turnovers into consecutive fast breaks and drive-ins to put the game out of reach, 70-47.

Refusing to bow out of the tournament, CSU managed to bounce back from the disappointing loss, after surviving a thriller against Nueva Vizcaya State University (NVSU), 95-93, to hammer home the last ticket to the finals.

CSU averted a fourth-quarter defensive collapse, after squandering a 19-point lead with NVSU's Jeremy Mejia who led a ferocious flurry of fast-break points and unmolested layups.

With momentum shifting, CSU tightened its defensive stance in the dying moments, shutting down NVSU's comeback bid to escape with the 2-point win.

Meanwhile, the ISU women's squad maintained their spotless record throughout the eliminations, securing the crucial twice-to-beat edge heading into the finals.

CSU's lady hooplers, determined for redemption, carved their own path back to the championship round by dominating NVSU, 59-44, setting up an intense rematch against ISU and a golden opportunity to dethrone the defending champions.

The championship clashes between ISU and CSU in both divisions will take center stage at Red Eagle Gymnasium on March 27. 🏀

ISU hailed as overall champion in Men's, Women's Pencak Silat

LHYCA JOI AGRESSOR, THE CSU PROMETHEAN

Isabela State University (ISU) displayed their ability, power, and technique, sealing their title as the overall champion in both men's and women's categories of the Pencak Silat Tanding competition held at Robinson's Place, Tuguegarao City on March 26.

Jedi Queyquep, Lenard Santiago, Mark Mina, and Joshua Ortiz of ISU men's team set a strong precedent, bagging gold medals, while Florence Gabanilla and Dave Garcia earned silver medals in their respective weight classes.

Building on the men's success, the ISU women's team consisting of Dona Ramires, Kristina Amugauan, and Anne Ibarra, delivered powerful sweeps and explosive throws, raking gold after gold, while Abigail Bunaga earned a silver medal across the seven women's weight classes.

Anne Ibarra of the ISU women's team described the intense competition and the strategic approach she executed that led her to win against her co-competitors.

"Good fight yung fight namin actually. First and second, tantya ko talaga, lamang siya doon. Hindi ko pinilit yung take-down kasi hindi ko talaga kaya, so ang strategy ko na lang doon, pumupuntos ako ng dos-dos lang; talagang sipa lang yung nilamang ko, at maganda 'yon kasi kahit papaano naungusan ko ang kalaban," she stated. ("Actually, our fight was a good fight. In

the first and second, I estimated that my opponent was ahead of me by points. I did not force a take-down because I really could not do it, so I strategized and earned points one by one. The kicks were just my advantage and that was good because I outplayed my opponent.")

She also added that she felt happy after her victory since she not only attributed her win to her city but also to the whole university. "Ang saya ko po kasi hindi lamang po yung city namin yung parang naipalalo namin kundi buong state university ng Isabela po, kaya sobrang gaan po sa feeling. Overwhelmed po kasi konti lang ang preparation, pero nakuha namin ang over-all champion in both categories," she added.

Meanwhile, Henson Saludares and Rowel Areola of Cagayan State University (CSU) bagged gold in the men's category, while Ulysses Cui and Basco Amante reaped silver.

Jeanne Bariuan, Nicole Aggabao, and Yvette Aggabao of CSU triumphed with gold, while Irish Valdez and Joeanna Farinias earned silver in the women's division.

Quirino State University (QSU) also saw success with Frank Gumuwang and Harold Castillo in the men's category and Jean Bimmala in the women's category by leading the charge, qualifying them for the national competition. 🏆

BALITHEAN WATCHLIST



WATCH ONLY ON THE OFFICIAL FACEBOOK PAGE OF THE CSU OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

