

T H E   W I N N E R !



*BC Journalists together with Dr. Embalzado, Dr. Valiente, Mr. Ampatin and Mr. Visaya (Left to right 2nd row) , and Ms. Equibal (standing left).*

The Benedicto College (BC) Gazette was adjudged the best among the Campus papers in the Blog Site Contest sponsored by Smart Communications, Inc. (Smart) and Sun. Star Daily Cebu and conducted during the observance of Cebu Press Freedom Week. Mr. Nicolas Ampatin, the publication adviser together with the paper's student and staff writers received the award's fabulous prizes consisting of a bird trophy (symbolic of press freedom) and a cool P20,000.00 cash.

"Ang Suga" of CNU –

or Cebu Normal University's paper blog version got the second place with the cash prize of P15,000.00, while the third placer, "The Carolinian" of the University of San Carlos received P10,000.00 cash prize.

The "Technologist Student Press" of Cebu Institute of Technology was given a unit of Smart Bro prepaid plug-it as consolation prize.

Smart Communications has undertaken the contest which is aimed giving campus publications of both public private schools in Cebu a venue to articulate and share their experiences on the relevance of on-line journalism in this cyberspace age which may do away with the traditional physical newsroom.

The project is also part of Smart's efforts to make on-line journalism a part of their "Internet for All Advocacy".

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A Good Fight to Remember

In a competition, it is not all about winning or losing; it's all about having fun. It sounds casual, yet true. This makes me accept defeat as it is like victory. Can we really have fun in losing? Can we really be contented and happy after losing in a contest? Can nothing really matter as long as we had the fun?

Let me take for instance, the experience I went through during the most recent contest I got into – "My Business Idol 2010" competition. Together with another BSA student Clint John Oyao, we co-represented Benedicto College in the said competition. We

mination, preparation, and most especially self-confidence. I couldn't find the word that would fittingly describe the emotions I felt while I was on the spotlight. Although in hindsight, the support given me by the school, my classmates, friends and our coach, Ms. Lilibeth Mayol helped me pull through. I thought that I had given the best of what I had. Although we did not come out the winner, we believed we deserve the glory that was accorded to us just being part of this prestigious competition.

Referring back to my guiding principle, it is not the winning or losing that counts. What matters is we didn't give



were up against nine other entrants from the major colleges and universities in Metro Cebu. Our task was to present a most creative and unique business plan. The prospect of having the plan presented before a large audience composed of Metro Cebu's leading personalities in business, both in the profession and the academe, plus the hundreds of students could be awfully daunting. Being on stage and on the spotlight, presenting and defending the business plan before a panel of five well-respected judges from the business sector was most challenging. To go through it, I realized, required a lot of courage, deter-

up; we didn't flounder. Losing did not mean we missed the fun or we didn't do our best. It's just that there are wars we can't win.. Some have to stand out; some have to fall. This was probably not our time yet. I know there will be many more challenging competitions in life that we may have to go through. One losing experience can be made positive to make us ready for the "next fight." Looking back, with pride and humility, I can say that because we did our best, the Business Idol Competition was one good fight to remember.

By: **Sheila Mae Codiz**

## The Aim of a University Education

If then a practical end must be assigned to a University course, I say it is that of training good members of society. Its art is the art of social life, and its end is fitness for the world. It neither confines its views to particular professions on one hand, nor creates heroes or inspires genius on the other. Works indeed of genius fall under no art; heroic minds come under no rule; a University is not a birthplace of poets or of immortal authors, of founder of schools, leaders of colonies, or conquerors of nations. It does not promise a generation of Aristotles or Newtons, of Napoleons or Washingtons, of Raphaels or Shakespeares, though such miracles it has before now contained within its precincts. Nor is it content on the other hand with forming the critic or the experimentalist, the economist or the engineer, although such too it includes within its scope. But A university training is the great ordinary means to a great but ordinary end; it aims at raising the intellectual tone of society, at cultivating the public mind, at purifying the national taste, at supplying true principles to popular enthusiasm and fixed aims to popular aspiration, at giving enlargement and sobriety to the ideas of the age, at facilitating the exercise of political power, and refining the interaction of private life. It is the education which gives [a person] a clear, conscious view of their own opinions and judgments, a truth in developing them, an eloquence in expressing them, and a force in urging them.

**Taken from John Henry Newman's The Idea of a University (1852).**

## Nurses Reign BC Intramurals '10



*Nursing Cheerleaders winning move. Nursing won this contest.*

Once again, the College of Nursing had conquered 3 teams namely: CCS-E, BM-HM and ED-HS, during the Intramurals, last September 6-8, 2010. the Nursing team participated in 16 events in which they grabbed 8 gold, 2 silver and 4 bronze medals. For three consecutive years, the "Nurses" preserved their title as defending champion in the history of Benedicto College Intramurals.

Despite their busy schedules, the determined group did whatever it take for their game practice and try-outs, thus, sacrificing their rest time. To the nursing teams, practice was a serious matter.

The Clinical Instructors (CI) also helped in organizing the teams, especially keeping the game practice schedule. The active support of the CI's motivated the teams to do more for the practice.

The number of students from Nursing was a big plus for the selection of their best athletes/players. They could even put up a varsity team. Other teams which have lesser number of students have lesser chances to win the championship title.

As the Nursing teams played the games, they worked together in order to lead over their opponents. This is the most important thing, unity. They exerted efforts and energy in every game. All their perform-

ances is at its best; in other words, they did not under-

nel gathered at the Kinetic Centrum for the acquaintance party in the evening of July 30, 2010.

The night was packed with fun and entertainment and sumptuous food. Students and faculty shared talents in singing and dancing. Adding color to the night were the outfits of those who dare to be different. One standout was Dean Embalsado of the HM Department whose mid-east garb could mistake him for Chairman Yasser Arafat of the Palestine Liberation Organization. The students decided to make the occasion more exciting by holding a dance competition.

The combined terpsichorean agility of the College of Computer Science and Engineering came out with first place honor. It broke the record of the College of Nursing as the traditionally consistent winner in many Benedicto College competitions. The nurses this time came out second while the College of Hospitality and Management landed third.

Indeed, it was a night and well-blended by the mixture of anything that was now like the hiphop, the modern belly dancing provided by

estimate the capability of their opponents. On some of the issues about their being champion during the awarding ceremony, Mr. Benedict Sy, one of the leading personalities in the Nursing team said, "We should learn to accept the decision of the referees and judges and fight another day. After all, we are all in only one school. The purpose of our Intramurals is to mingle with each other and get to know each other better to foster friendship and goodwill." By: **John Rey Tepacia**

## ONE NIGHT TO DATE



*Induction of officers for Student Body Organization (SBO).*

"Getting Together, Knowing each Other – Ila-ila ta Beh"

What a fitting theme for the first major activity of the 2010 – 2011 Academic Year. To start the year right, all of Benedicto College students, faculty, and administrative staff and person-

nel gathered at the Kinetic Centrum for the acquaintance party in the evening of July 30, 2010. The night was packed with fun and entertainment and sumptuous food. Students and faculty shared talents in singing and dancing. Adding color to the night were the outfits of those who dare to be different. One standout was Dean Embalsado of the HM Department whose mid-east garb could mistake him for Chairman Yasser Arafat of the Palestine Liberation Organization. The students decided to make the occasion more exciting by holding a dance competition. The combined terpsichorean agility of the College of Computer Science and Engineering came out with first place honor. It broke the record of the College of Nursing as the traditionally consistent winner in many Benedicto College competitions. The nurses this time came out second while the College of Hospitality and Management landed third. Indeed, it was a night and well-blended by the mixture of anything that was now like the hiphop, the modern belly dancing provided by

By: **Clint John Oyao**

## BC Hosts GSM Mixology Seminar

As part of the GSM Blueniversity Nationwide Tour, the Ginebra San Miguel, Inc. conducted a one-day Mixology Seminar on September 11, 2010. Hosted by Benedicto College, the event was participated in by HRM students and faculty from different colleges and universities in Metro Cebu.



*Dr. Valiente gave a welcome remarks to delegates from different colleges/universities.*

One learning highlight of the event was the Flairtending Competition where talents in bartending were showcased. Yes, flairtending refers to that part of bartending which involves some fan act juggling of bottles and glasses in the process of mixing drinks. Students with exemplary skills in flairtending will be sent to represent their respective

schools (or the city of Cebu) in the upcoming national flairtending competition to be held in Manila. As token, students who attended the seminar were given GSM Blue Kits.

For future activities, check out the Facebook page of GSM Blueniversity for more details.

By: **Niña Fatima Pacatang**

## A TALE OF TWO EXECUTIVES

Two propositions: “You don’t have to be a horse to be a good judge in a horserace.” “Education is social service not business.”

What do you make of these propositions when you relate them to running an educational institution? What credentials a school executive should have? Operating a school as a business proposition may not sound agreeable but when it comes to finances, it takes a lot of good business acumen to keep the operation from becoming a losing proposition. Two blue-blooded businessmen Consul and Engr. Samuel Chioson and business and trade expert Dr. Efren S. Valiente have put on the educators robe and are now administering Benedicto College in Mandaue City. On the occasion of the college’s tenth year of operation, the two now take on some very pressing questions affecting our present educational system as they express their hearts and minds about their work as executive officers of an educational institution..

**NTA:** What is your idea of a “quality education?”

**ENGR. CHIOSON:** “It means producing school graduates, at all levels from Basic Education to College Education, even Technical Vocational Education, who become productive members of society. It must be emphasized that the foundation levels of education in the preparatory, elementary to high school are the most crucial levels and must be where the important focus of education should be. This pertains to education of toddlers of 2 and a half years of age up to 4<sup>th</sup> year high school, who are about to turn 17 or 18 years of age. In the Basic Education Department of Benedicto College, we are studying the possibility, and if feasible, with the concurrence of our parents, our school will be initiating a

program that would enhance the learning of Math, Science, and English, of our pupils and students.”

**DR. VALIENTE:** “To produce quality graduates, the educational institution must have the ingredients - the components or pillars of learning - of the highest quality: a) strict admission policy to select top enrollees, b) relevant curricula, c) well-trained and motivated faculty, d) good and well built infrastructure conducive to learning, and e) supportive school administrators who are educators at heart and operate with vision, passion, commitment and dedication. Quality education, therefore, can also be expressed in a Math formula: Input = Output, meaning if a school has all the quality ingredients as input, then all graduates or output of that school will also be of quality.

**NTA:** How do you reconcile business and school operations? How is it if schools are operated as a trade and commerce affair?

**ENGR. CHIOSON:** One of the ingredients of an educational institution is infrastructure. I focus my role in Benedicto College in providing a conducive learning environment. This is where my professional background as civil engineer comes handy. Putting up a school requires a business background because one must study the market supply and demand, determine its feasibility and compute its return of investment. Education must not be a commodity, because unlike a factory that turns raw materials to finished products, education’s products are its graduates, who are human beings. An educational institution must respect that the dignity of the human species and must therefore conduct itself with sensitivity and act in an appropriate manner.

**DR. VALIENTE:** Today, especially in the Philippines’ educational landscape there

**See next page...**

## The Cardinal and Calungsod

Recently, Cardinal Ricardo Vidal, an eminent religious figure in Cebu, is asking the faithful to pray for the Blessed Pedro Calungsod’s canonization. I believe more faithful would be profoundly ardent to heed his plea.

In times of adversities and trials, we need people whom we can draw inspiration from. In Cebu for instance, amid diverse idiosyncrasies, a religious figure could serve as a driving force that would bind people for unity. It gives us light at the end of a seemingly murky journey.

Dengue outbreak, perennial corruption in the bureaucracy, jueteng and other illegal number games, shabu deals...and the list is outwardly endless that at times we lose hope of moving forward thinking that the situation remains to be a hopeless cyclical case.

But we Filipino people are hopeful and persevering. We still find a sense of inspiration and direction from mortals—dead or living.

Every time Cebu is faced with challenging situations, the cardinal is always ready to provide his spiritual leadership encouraging the populace to have a constant and strong relationship with their Creator.

And with the canonization of Blessed Pedro Calungsod, his contributions to the religious faith would be “divinely” recognized, thus would eventually provide an inspiration to all of us.

Both the cardinal and blessed Calungsod have, in a way, paved the way for Cebuanos’ spiritual maturity.

Though he is due to take a corporeal rest, the cardinal’s spiritual legacy would remain to be a source of inspiration among the faithful. For blessed Calungsod, his name may be a source of comic tease in the workplace, likened to somebody who is God-fearing, honest, diligent, obedient and dedicated. Are you a Calungsod? But why not? Aren’t these qualities we badly need today? By: **Ranulfo L. Visaya Jr.**

exist a public-private mix. When the private sector goes into something, its almost always a business proposition that must be studied in terms of market feasibility, financial viability, and return on investment. But with sensitivity to the nature of an educational institution, the private sector does not consider education as a commodity, because unlike a manufacturing plant that turns raw materials into finished products, the products of an educational institution are human beings. But the private sector who are trained in good management use these competencies to operate schools efficiently and effectively. Good management simply means the allocation and judicious use of available and oftentimes limited resources.

**NTA:** How do you address the problem of mismatch between graduates knowledge and the skills demands in the labor market?

**ENGR. CHIOSON:** A study conducted by Cebu Chamber of Commerce and Industry showed this mismatch, after which a consortium of industry players and the academia was organized to address this problem. The industry most affected was the Information Technology sector. Thus, the consortium Cebu Education for Information Technology (CED-FIT). Benedicto College, being one of the consortium founders, reviewed its College of Computer Studies curricula and incorporated many of the CED-FIT recommendations.

**DR. VALIENTE:** "There are historical bases on this mismatch problem even as far back as the 19<sup>th</sup> century up to the present. With the advent of strong dynamic industries, demands for highly specialized manpower needs are accelerated. This phenomenon will continue even in the years to come and industry and the academe must continue to look for ways so this mismatch can be resolved.

**NTA:** Where do you stand



**Consul Samuel L. Chioson**  
President and CEO



**Dr. Efren S. Valiente**  
Director and COO

on the issue of increasing the number of years for the basic education program?

**DR. VALIENTE:** "Research have proven that children who have longer years in school become more productive members of society. According to education experts all over the world, there is direct correlation to the talents of citizens with the number of years in the foundational years in the pre-school, elementary and high schools. The longer the number of school years, the better. I am in favor of the proposal."

No doubt a mark of a good executive is knowledgeability of the demands and responsibilities of one's assigned task. No doubt, too, Engr. Consul Samuel Chioson and Dr. Efren Valiente have it. With the two, Benedicto College is in the hands of those who have the needed competencies. In its tenth year, the college is off to begin another phase of its existence to validate further its presence in the country's educational landscape.

**By: Nick Ampatin**

## TRAINING OUR YOUNG EARLY

At an early age, engaging young children to myriad situations and opportunities that would inflame and develop their leadership skills is indispensable.

At this time of the year, schools have already their student officers of their student government body and have probably held induction ceremonies.

Zealous, inducting student leaders into office in the grade and high school, and giving an inspirational message afterwards is a privilege and gratifying feat. Addressing to eager souls and likewise to those who probably ran for office in the guise to become campus figures remains a beguiling human experience.

Reminiscent of the past and situating the present—as once a student leader during school days and now a school administrator, sharing to them some nuggets of wisdom is a tall order. What else to share but some qualities every great leader needs.

Recognized, these qualities are apt for them to start their acts right.

**Integrity.** Explaining this colossal concept to children is indeed a challenge but illustrating specific situations would be easy for them to grasp. A situation wherein one can face with anybody—sans hesitation and devoid of pretensions; a singular regard by others to a person after a long established and untarnished reputation.

**Ability to listen to others.** Listening makes a leader more attuned to what is happening with his governed. Some are talkers, but we equally need listeners for more understanding.

**Knowledge of what he is doing**—a leader who knows the minutiae of his followers, the situation and the relationships involved. As the cliché goes "Little knowledge is dangerous". But a leader who has the keenness to learn is very laudable.

**Ability to accept one's limitations.** Everyone makes mistakes and we do learn from them. Nobody has the monopoly of knowledge. Others have that you don't have. Acknowledging one's limitations is a humbling experience. Even great men, still corporeal like us, do acknowledge their frailties. The experience of falling teaches us the spirit in rising.

**Consistency.** Establish rules, policies and guidelines. Standards must be set. Followers can discern when their leaders would keep on changing decisions. Change is inescapable. Positive change is desirable but frequent changing brings about unsteadiness.

**Decisiveness.** Followers bestow their leader the say-so to decide—when it's needed, at the right time, do it! It is an exercise in futility when the decision is no longer needed. It is akin to rendering no decision at all.

But changes do not come overnight. A leader should realize and embrace the idea that there are things only time can tell. That's where the value of patience comes in. A virtue that some of our children lack or do not have. Impatient, some of them are so eager to see instant results. So they resort to some short-cut dealings.

Seeking good modelling and guidance from their parents, teachers and loved ones is of the essence. Acknowledging the wisdom of experience, time-tested practices and guidance from Him is equipping oneself for the great task ahead.

That's when our young appreciate leading people, not for popularity—just a gratuity—but for genuine service that takes great responsibility.

**By: Ranulfo L. Visaya Jr.**