

LAST SEM'S AIDE TES grantees receive first half of subsidy



PHOTO BY JM LLORAG

ADDED SUPPORT. Beneficiaries of the Php 40,000 worth of financial support from the government already received the first half of the grant to compensate for last sem's missed allocation. Second half will be distributed come March this sem.

By JEAN MAICA G. VELASCO

At least 1,724 students of Eastern Visayas State University-Main Campus already received half of the Php 40,000.00 Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES) cash grant last January to cover the first semester's allocation.

According to the Head of Student Affairs Office (SAO), Prof. Sonia T. Enrile, TES is a subvention given to the poorest among the poor which aims to help students who are in need of financial support especially those belonging in a marginalized family.

"I am very thankful na naupod ako han TES kay waray la hiya makabulig ha akon pag iskwela pati gihap ha akon family kay dire na gud ako/kami magkukuri hin duro pamiling hin kwarta para tak mga paraliton ngan baraydan ha school like books. This is really a blessing," said Kenneth

TES continued on Page 2

Enrolment stat declines by 11% for second semester

By ANGELINE B. BARSANA

Office of the University Registrar revealed a decrease in the number of enrollees for the second semester from 10,961 officially enrolled students last semester down to 9,852 as of January 31 despite the effectuation of the Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES).

Said number of enrollees from the first semester did not continuously increase even after the release of the cash grants last December under the core program of the RA 10931 or the

Universal Quality Tertiary Education Act.

New appointed head of the University Registrar, Prof. Judith B Campo believes that the root cause of such decrease in the student population is due to reported drop-outs, other personal reasons or priorities such as engaging into a job or venturing into a micro-business.

Meanwhile, the registrar's office tallied a total of 2,301 students from the College of Engineering (COE), 1,431 students from the College of Technology (COT), 1,415 students from

ENROLMENT continued on Page 3

SSG to hold inter-dep't basketball cup

By ERWIN M. ELICOT JR.

Slated to run its second season this February, the inter-department basketball tournament

dubbed EVSU Cup will put 14 teams on a head-on collision for hardcourt supremacy.

EVSU Cup was one of the programs initiated *SSG continued on Page 3*



PHOTO BY CML TABUENA

FRIENDLY COMPETITION. As part of the programs planned by the Supreme Student Government, an inter-department basketball tournament will commence by February to build healthy competition among the students of Eastern Visayas State University.

NEWS

SUCs face-off in EVCAA Basketball Tourney Season 1

By JAMES WELL M. GORME

Set to supplement the basketball arena laid out by the annual SCUAA Meet, Tingog Sinirangan and Leyte First District put up the first season of the Eastern Visayas Collegiate Athletics Association (EVCAA) Games with eight State Universities and Colleges vying for the golden cup.

According to Mr. Julius Ross Lacaba, EVCAA's Tournament Commissioner, the first season of this basketball tournament aims to improve the level of competition among basketball players in the region, to help the national team select potential players and to provide capacity-building to referees and coaches.

"We are supporting the national agenda on grassroots sports development with the vision that we will be able to produce players who will compete in the national and international basketball tournaments," Lacaba said in an article from SunStar Philippines.

Mr. Lacaba emphasized that EVCAA's main goal is to not only let the student-athletes showcase their talents in sport but also to improve.

"There is no other way to make good basketball players than to make them play. We make them play, we play better, better tactics and



PHOTO BY LLB ARPON

DEFENDING SCUAA'S WIN. Eastern Visayas State University Eagles had a good start in the first EVCAA Tournament winning its first two games against Visayas State University and Leyte Normal University. Ms. EVSU Sports, Angel Rose Tambal likewise took home the crown as the first Ms. EVCAA.

strategies, and eventually you create a better team," Jude Acidre, second nominee of the said party-list said in the same article from SunStar Philippines.

First Games

University of Eastern Philippines (UEP) beat the Northwest Samar State University (NwSSU) during the first game under the Eastern Conference while Eastern Visayas State University (EVSU) made a good start after defeating Leyte Normal University with a 10-point lead, 72-62 during the second game under the

Western Conference.

Meanwhile, Eastern Samar State University (ESSU) and Samar State University (SSU) will face-off for the Eastern Conference, also Naval State University (NSU) and Visayas State University (VSU) for the western conference on February 9-10 at the Tacloban City Convention Center.

"Training, discipline, hard work, proper work ethics, chemistry, friendship and camaraderie are the things that we possessed. We won because we have proper training and we trusted each other," said Prof. Sheldon Ives Go Agaton, coach of EVSU Eagles.

Team captain of EVSU Eagles, Raffy Gravador was hailed "Player of the Game" after earning 19 points, 3 blocks and 12 rebounds.

"I'm so proud of myself but I'm way more proud to the team because without them, I would not earn the title," Gravador said.

Said basketball tournament will resume for 7-8 weeks for the elimination round and 3-4 weeks for the playoffs and final round.

Ms. Angel Rose Tambal, EVSU's Ms. Sports, was crowned as the first ever Ms. EVCAA. •

TES from Page 1

Murillo, AB Filipino student and a beneficiary of TES.

"All students that were enrolled here in the university were submitted to the TES portal. Gin submit kamo tanan except la han mga Marine students because their course is not yet recognized by CHED. Waray requirements na kinahanglan. All names of

students were submitted as required, ma pobre, ma riko, 4p's man o dire, tanan na students gin-submit. The CHED Central Office made use of the listahanan han DSWD as their basis in choosing hinin na mga TES grantees, but as other students tried to inform us that there are some na dire 4Ps. Kumbaga, dire tanan na 4Ps naka-avail or nag-qualify. Now, dire

liwat kami makakabaton, even the CHED cannot answer kun how the CHED Central Office chose ini na mga TES grantees kay pag submit hito namon, hira iton nagpili, kun paano gin-pili, kun paano nira gin-screen, kun paano nira gin-evaluate. So, that's from the CHED Central Office through the CHED Region 8," Prof. Enrile explained.

Meanwhile, the

university is waiting for another directive from the CHED Central Office if there will be another set of TES grantees for next school year. This semester, the other 20K which will be distributed to the grantees through acquiring a bank account. •

Sen. Bam Aquino talks on FHE, TES

By ANNISA S. YANGZON

As the principal sponsor and co-author of R.A. 10931 or the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act, Senator Bam Aquino made his visit to Eastern Visayas State University (EVSU) for his #LibreNaKolehiyo caravan last January 24 at the EVSU Auditorium.

“For those who have known nothing but disappointment, we need to be that voice of confidence. For those who are paralyzed by their failures, we can be that voice of inspiration,” said Aquino on encouraging the students to fight for their right to education.

According to the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), the Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES) as one of the core programs under the Republic Act No. 10931 also known as the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act, has an allocation of Php16 Billion from the Php40 Billion budget which is a grants-in-aid program that provides funding for all Filipino students from the poorest-of-the-poor households enrolled in public and private HEIs.

Part of the said law is to give Student Grants and Financial Loans to both public and private tertiary education institutions or students enrolled in State

Universities and Colleges (SUCs), Local Universities and Colleges (LUCs) and Government-Owned TechVoc Institution.

However, questions as to how the selection of the grantees for the said program were raised during the forum.

Head of the Student Affairs Office, Prof. Sonia T. Enrile clarified that everyone who qualified for the FHE program were submitted for the TES evaluation.

“Only the CHED has the power to select the beneficiaries in consideration of the standards they set for this subsidy,” Prof. Enrile said.

Two-time student regent, Hon. Jobert F. Briones shared his story on how difficult college is in terms of financial matters.

“Laking ginhawa para sa kinabibilangang mga sakin nang naisabatas ang free higher education law dahil imbes na pambayad ng matrikula, nailalaan ko na ang pera sa ibang mga bagay at sa mga pangangailangan ng aking mga kapatid. Dahil sa batas para sa libreng kolehiyo, mas marami nang mga estudyante ang nagkaroon ng interes na magpatuloy at magtapos ng kanilang pag-aaral.”

Other than EVSU, Sen. Aquino will visit other university in the Philippines as part of this education caravan. •



PHOTO BY JM LLORAG

CHAMPION OF EDUCATION. Being the prime sponsor of RA 10931, Senatoriable Bam Aquino visits State Universities and Colleges all over the Philippines to discuss the provisions and effects of the Free Higher Education Program on students including those in EVSU.

SSG from Page 1

by the Supreme Student Government to encourage students to engage in healthy competition since last school year as part of the Founding Anniversary Celebration.

According to SSG Vice President, Cokiema Costelo, they were targeting a maximum of 20 teams composed of 7-15 players coming from the different departments of the university to face-off in a single elimination

tournament. However, as of writing, there were only a few teams who registered before the deadline set on February 8, 2019.

Interested participants are requested to submit a duly filled out form along with a copy of their Certificate of Registration (COR) and their school identification card (ID) with an entry fee of Php 250.00.

The SSG targets February 18 as the official start of the tournament and is bound to end by March 8. •

ENROLMENT from Page 1

the College of Business and Entrepreneurship (COBE), 1,400 students from College of Education (COED), 1,171 students from the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS), 471 students from the College of Architecture and Allied Discipline (CAAD),

1,155 students from the Graduate School (GS) and 500 students from the Science Laboratory Department (SLD).

However, some of the colleges resulted to an addition in number due to students who shifted from one program to another.

“Though the VPAA said

that we will not be accepting shiftees this semester, hindi talaga maiwasang mayroong shiftees, wala tayong magagawa kundi tanggapin,” Prof. Campo added.

Classes for the second semester officially started last January 11 and the enrolment process was

extended until the first week of February to accommodate students who still lack grades from the previous semester. •

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When rights become an IOU



There is but a thin line between being assertive and imposing. If this is blurred out further, the line joining diplomacy and rationality becomes widened and the concept of right and wrong no longer becomes mutually exclusive. Such is the case happening with the issues concerning the programs and reforms initiated by the government. Students became too assertive and the government is becoming more imposing. Worse, along the grapevine, the witnesses exacerbate the situation by fueling ad hominem to everyone who's acting out.

Students from different universities, both public and private have rallied to call out the government on different issues they think affect the people negatively. From Martial Law to the war on drug and even to the increase of tuition fee for private schools, these students have not been silent about fighting for what they think is right. Unfortunately, not everyone who sees them rallying agrees. Comments accusing them of

being exaggerated, ignorant, and even going beyond telling them stupid and ingrates were circulated on both social media and in person. The validity of such accusations is, although holds some credits, something that would make one think of whether we really are progressing as a society.

Most people have grown too accustomed to the unorthodox manner of the government solving the different issues in the Philippines. We have dismissed "collateral damage" as something inevitable and even necessary. We have accepted rape culture and violence as a norm instead of an enemy. We have settled for the mediocre solutions instead of fighting for holistic and sustainable programs. Why is this? Because we have learned to believe that we owe the government everything that they have done for us when it was part of their sworn duty to protect our welfare. All these are our rights – education, health, safety – and these are not gifts

the government gave us but rather their responsibilities. Hence the constant call for the improvement of what is already laid down to us.

This is not to say, however, that we must not reciprocate the efforts of the government. Participating in activities that will promote the welfare of our people, studying really hard, engaging in constructive debates and establishing programs to help our fellowmen, and even following the basic rule of riding an escalator are things that will prove that we take progress seriously. We all must do our part.

Yes, we do not owe anything to the government, but we owe a lot to the people who are contributing in making sure the Philippines does not run out of fuel, and these are the Filipino people. We owe it to them to create a brighter future for the next generation and that their tax money is not put to waste by settling for the disturbing norm the government is trying to impose on us. •



CHARMAINE JOY B. RONDINA
TRIGGERED

Scandalous hypocrisy

“It baffles me how the same people who advocate against bullying are the same people who keep spreading the scandals.”

May link ka?

If you ever said that, even just once in your life, don't stop reading. Let's talk.

Sex scandals – we all know what they are, some of you even all too well. In an age where both social media and sexual desire grow rampant, the more people forget about values and respect towards another's privacy. The pendulum has swung to the opposite extreme. From immense conservativity,

we have moved into quasi-pornography. Films and shows now regularly include detailed depictions of sex with few details left to our imagination.

I have always kept my mouth shut about this issue because I knew in the back of my mind that I would be called a prude - not that it's a bad thing - and other demeaning names if I spoke up. Why? Because it happens so much that people tend to think it is okay to keep spreading videos of other

people “doing their own thing”. But, I came to realize that if we tolerate such behavior, then it will soon enough be normalized; that there will come a time when privacy is no longer a thing and people will have no fear invading our personal businesses - and I do not like that thought a single bit.

It baffles me how the same people who advocate against bullying, depression, and suicide on their timelines are the same ones who keep spreading the scandals and calling the people involved such derogatory words. I mean, how much more of a hypocrite can you be? Do you think that by giving away the links or copies of such scandals would not lead to one of those three? Well, you are mistaken, my friend. Okay, let's say that the individuals involved in the scandal are also at fault for recording themselves during their moment of

intimacy but what makes you think that it is right to go around and boast that you have a copy of their video? Do you think it makes you look cool? Because frankly, you look more like a desperate attention seeker who depends on lust and porn for happiness.

And you know what's worse? Some of the scandals were taken by other people and not by the ones involved themselves. How have we reached such a disgusting and sickening age where people have forgotten how to mind their own business and value privacy?

While you are stuck in your room, having the time of your life watching something that was meant for ONLY the keeps of the people in the video and doing God knows what with it, I hope you realize that you are affecting not just their lives, but their families

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RAYMAND V. GADORES
FORESIGHT

White dot on grey matter

“Remember there are 360 days in a year and foresee what will it be like to be happy in a full year turn.”

In our lives where everything seems wrong something finally felt right. Well, my latest exam awfully sounded that way and I'm one of the lesser happy people in the world right now. But when all seems dull and gray and we are in the verge of giving up, remember that there is always a white dot – you are still alive. You can still fight.

I got the idea when I did some laundry on my gray shirt and accidentally dropped chlorine on it. Two shocking things immediately flashed in my mind. First, my Mom will scold me and my wallet won't be happy about it. Secondly, the black shirt may be our present problematic lives full of failed exams, heartaches and rejections and the chlorine may be our hope

that we are still living itself. A catalyst that, while tiny, has a chance of spreading with enough concentration within our minds and a positive reaction of our hearts to form the right solution to our current situation.

Maybe we can start small. A single own-solved word problem a day for your dream score next time. A minute exercise a day for that body goals. A moment to be thankful for the friends you share your jokes with. Remember the pinch of joy after you accomplish that little thing. Gradually increase it and feed on that motivation. Remember there are 360 days in a year and foresee what will it be like to be happy in a full year turn.

Meanwhile, our subconscious tends to immediately associate hard work to pain and hassle which leave our plans as uncolored drawings.

Sometimes we want something or attain certain things but some really do nothing. Instead, some people love complaining about everything. Our life is a gift and it gives us an opportunity to improve ourselves, and while the lazy complain, others are creating opportunities with their kind hearts, generosity and willingness to get the work done.

Our lives may be different shades of gray – concern on health issues, broken hearts, financial problems and rejections – making our lives dull and unhappy. But always remember the white dot because it matters and can heal you and while we are all doing that, I must also do a better explaining to my Mom because my allowance also matters. •

What are the activities you would want to be included in the upcoming Foundation Week Celebration?

Compiled By ALIEZA JEAN T. BULACOY

Ibalik adto na Mr. Babes before, pero dapat an umapi kay tunay na lalaki hehe. [KuyaSir](#)

Battle of the bands! Inter-campus. Feeling ko damo an students na makadto especially kun deritso concert. [Chess_is_lyf](#)

Marisyo adto na Deal or No Deal, bet ko adto! [Sangkay_ni_@KuyaSir](#)

Mga booth pero an DJ Booth ngani, pa shout-out. Pwede gihap wedding booth, adto na posas posas para maka-points kan CRUSH. [Inhenyera_in_the_making](#)

Mag-conduct hira hin competition about spoken poetry since love month man. Malabas it ira gin aabat lol. [Pinakamahusay_ha_BSA](#)

Salon and Spa, pwede naman siguro diba? Since first year amo na talaga tam gusto charot only hihi.” [Grad_waiting](#)

“Movie marathon especially educational one with free snacks. [Ate_Violet](#)

Mag-conduct hira mga activities na bagan peryahan for entertainment la ba. Well, diri an negative side about it, pero an positive ba. Diba nayakan hira kun ada ka ha perya mas happy ka. [Marbeyn](#)

Pa-concert! December Avenue!!! Maupay itO. [KuyaGwaps](#)

Let's do a benefit concert. Yung tipong mayda naman sense tat entertainment. [IsWitnessingMuch](#)

TO ALL CONCERNED Students are encouraged to submit their comments, sentiments and feedbacks on relevant and sensible matters concerning their fellow students as well as faculty members, teacher-student conflicts, project, etc. for necessary actions.

Submitted articles will be posted in the VOX SCHOLARIS section of this newsletter. Names will be withheld upon request of the contributor. All articles for contribution should be submitted to the SPO or given to any member of the Editorial Staff.

STOLEN PHOTOS TO STOLEN DIGNITIES

by ALYSSA ISABEL D. PAGARAO

Scroll. Laugh. Share. Scroll. Laugh. Share.

This is the new set of stereotypes who could have unintentionally destroyed someone.

Humor in this new generation creates a new definition which is an epic photo of someone along with a sarcastic or funny caption relative to what is trending in the society. Browsing through different new feeds, memes now make up seventy-three percent of it. Because social media has been the confining space of most.

Twenty-five year old Bethoven Delmar who was arrested for rape and thrown out a line wala na finish na"which was used by every social media user associating to ended relationships. Also, there was advance ako mag-isip guy Albert Mangapit who portrayed the sarcasm and humor behind people who works in advance resulting to an epic failure. A stolen photo of a lady who fell asleep on a chair positioned like superman buzzed on different meme stations.

GENERATION Z BULLYING

Cyberbullying is bullying which takes place at any electronic device such as laptops, personal computers, mobiles phones and tablets. It includes sharing personal information which leads to public embarrassment of the person involved.

Unfortunately, because of the overwhelming fun it provides the netizen, we forgot to evaluate its degree of insult towards the individual involved. Undeniably, none of us wants our stolen photos posted on any social media site because we are afraid that may be used as memes and make people fun of it.

Little did we know that the individuals in these memes are not happy of having their photos posted all over Facebook that has billions of users. The embarrassment caused by cyberbullying may lead to suicidal attempts.

INSULTING COMPLIMENTS

Comments and compliments are poured out to the meme after it has been shared thousands of times. Passing it on to different meme creators is another form of multiplying the embarrassment of the person.

"Ang pangit naman niya," "Para siyang suso," "Tulo laway pa yan," and many other insults buzzed in the comment sections pertaining to the meme. These lines will certainly make the person uncomfortable and ashamed of herself because the social media mentioned all of the flaws she has and even the non-existing ones just to gain likes and popularity.

Recorded last 2015, there is an increase of 70.74% according to the PNP Anti-Cybercrime Group as reported by Philippine Star. Also, according to this report, for the first quarter of 2017, the ACG has recorded 142 cases of online libel, 41 online threats, 10 incidents of unjust vexation and four cases of child abuse.

Memes are made to produce humor on our screens and pull out countless thoughts depicting the thoughts of the millennials on varying national or local issues but we also need to be very much sensitive in sharing and making memes to avoid unintentional cyber bullying.

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and the people who care for them as well. And if that makes you happy, then you are one sick person. What if you were in their position? Would you be happy? If not, then delete that video and stop sending it to others for your personal pleasure - stop being so selfish.

And if you are in a

relationship, I am not demanding you to be virgins, I am not prohibiting you from doing what you want, and much more than that, I am also not telling you what is right or wrong for the both of you, but at the very least, please think twice before doing things that you know you might end up regretting someday. There isa reason

why our brains are placed on top, eh? Prevention is better than cure, kids. Do your thing, but in private.

We must strive for a society that respects the right to privately live one's preferred lifestyle without seeking to impose it on others. I just hope it is not too late. The vast

majority of people in even our democratic country are sickened by this behavior and if you are a part of the fraction that believes that nothing is wrong with watching and spreading sexual scandals, then I pray for your soul because you are, for sure, not going to heaven anytime. •

FEATURE

BEYOND THY DEFINITION

by ALIEZA JEAN T. BULACCOY

Language is a tool towards unity but thinking beyond from it is another part of the story.

All of us have our own preferences when it comes to language. The kind of language that do not limit our thoughts, our opinions, and of course ourselves. But as we grow up, as opportunities start to get laid on the table, and as our responsibilities get slapped right through our faces, we realize that we cannot just focus on our own choices but instead, blend in to a situation where everyone can relate, everyone can understand. And that's when the rising of English started as the universal language.

ENGLISH AS A LANGUAGE.

English was first spread by the British around the globe through imperialism from the 1600s to the 1900s. As other countries were colonized by the British, English became the language of education and in government. And in many cases, English served as a useful common language among populations with different native tongues.

Although, English language doesn't have the largest number of native speakers around the world, still it has the widest reach of any language spoken up until today.

"Both native and second-language speakers of English are found on every continent, and English has become the lingua franca in many fields, including business, politics, science, technology, and entertainment" according from AJ Hoge an author of *Effortless English: Learn to Speak English Like A Native*.

ENGLISH AS A SKILL.

In psychology, intelligence is the intellectual capacity of humans, which are characterized by perception, consciousness, self-awareness, and volition. Through their intelligence, humans possess the cognitive abilities to learn, form concepts, understand, apply logic, and reason, including the capacities to recognize patterns, comprehend ideas, plan, problem solve, make decisions, retain information, and use language to communicate.

According to an American Development Psychologist Dr. Howard Gardner, traditional notion of intelligence, which is based on IQ testing, is far too limited. Instead, he proposes eight different intelligences to account for a broader range of human potential for both children and adults. One of the modalities of the eight intelligences that he proposes is the verbal-linguistic intelligence or being word smart.

"This modality of this intelligence has high facility with words and languages. People who have this intelligence are naturally adept at reading, writing, telling stories, and memorizing words along with dates. And this is where English proficiency comes in" he said.

Verbal-linguistics intelligence is measured through different verbal fluency tests or, simply put, one's language proficiency or one's ability to learn a new language.

ENGLISH AS AN ASSET.

Since English is the language of science and technology, English speakers have more opportunities to work with others in these fields and to share ideas and innovations. People who speak English have more job opportunities. Businesses need employees who can communicate fluently with English-speaking partners and clients. Business is increasingly being conducted across borders with English often being used as an international language of communication. Poor skills in the language can mean smaller chances of landing a job.

According to Jeff Peters an author and a blogger from Euro talk blog, English has been adopted by foreign companies as most effective means of gaining access to global commerce and trade. With the rise of English as the language of choice through out the global business community, it is important to learn the said language. Having effective English language skills will not only allow fo access to commerce and trade, it also provides an efficient way by which business is conducted.

Most of the top academic journals also are published in English, students and academics need strong English reading and writing skills to access to these information and research.

English language does not only tie all cultures together by allowing people from all around the world to understand each other, interpret ideas and opinions to people from any other culture or country but enhanced communication skills in English can result as well to an improved social life and better job opportunities in the future. We are now living in a modern world, we should not limit ourselves yet we should be brave enough to indulge ourselves into reality, where opportunities lie.

We are all anchored of the thought that intelligence can only be measured in a specific way where we are capable of doing in real life through different media. Not minding that intelligence comes in different forms and they are measured differently. We should not forget to count every little skill we have, we never know we can make it as a tool to survive this life of uncertainties.



ROGUE DIETY BY ROBINHOOD

Nifty conspicuous
By a glorious deity
Captivated eminently
In thy kingdom singly
Audacious shutterbug
Fell frailly

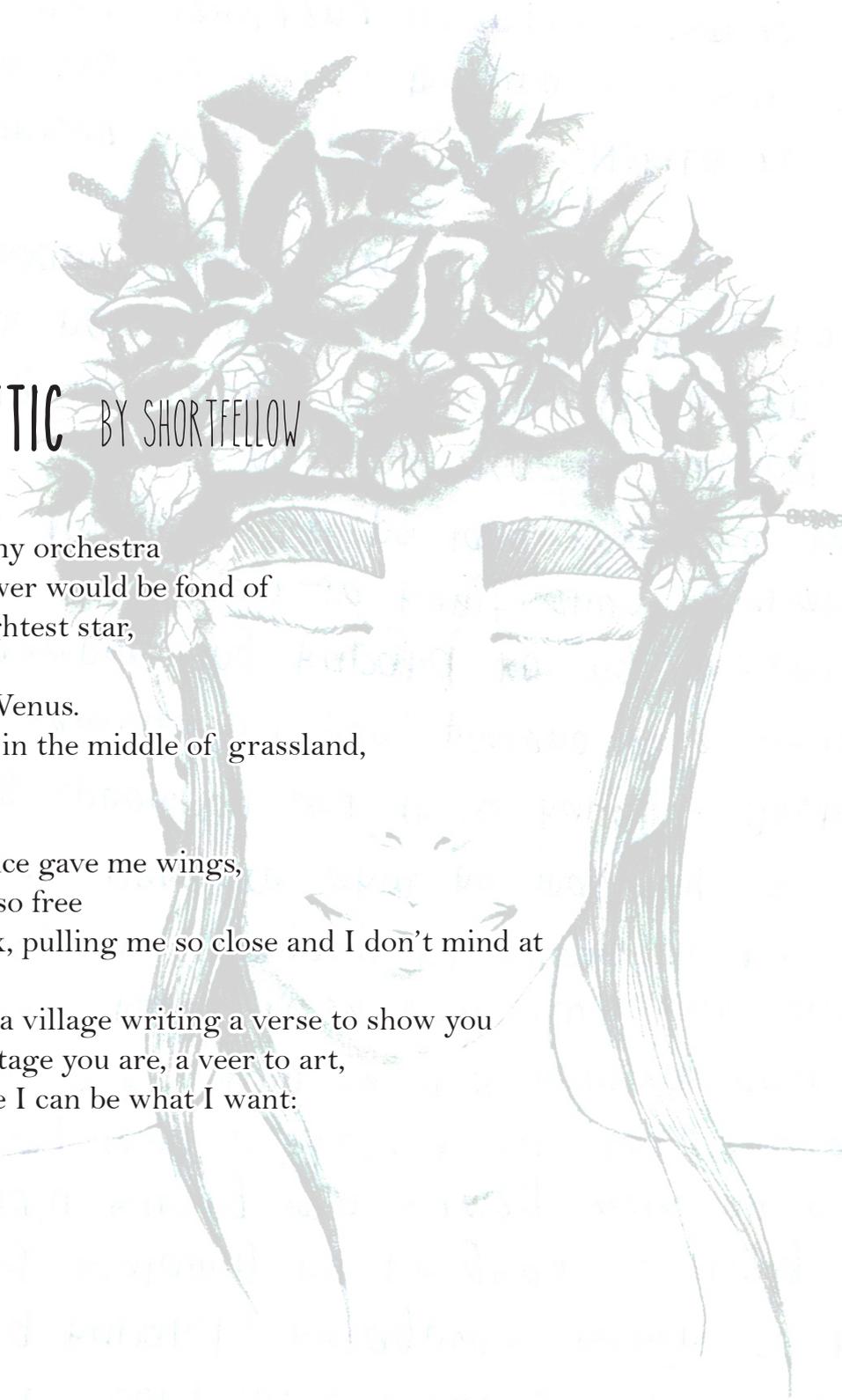
Winter turned spring
Going steady befell
Into raptures per diem
Like heaven in hell
Reckless vigor
Danced in flames

Sunset to sunrise
Danced attendance on
Wide awake till dawn
Had it off for so long
Grungy daredevil
Adore mightily

When all I said and alone
Thy deity spurned disdainfully
Our favorite haunt I went
Two duped enthusiasts I heeded
Rogue deity
Kissed another manther man

LITERARY

VI AESTHETIC BY SHORTEELLOW



You're a violin,
the center of my orchestra
A vase any flower would be fond of
You're the brightest star,
The Vega,
The vision of Venus.
You're a violet in the middle of grassland,
so delicate,
so pure
Your velvet voice gave me wings,
So passionate, so free
You're a vortex, pulling me so close and I don't mind at
all
Now I've built a village writing a verse to show you
A volcano on stage you are, a veer to art,
A veto to prove I can be what I want:
Myself.

THOUGHTS AND AFTERMATHS BY POLICARPIO

It was so simple at first
 It was as easy as simple arithmetic
 numbers not so dramatic
 problems needed no mystery
 answers were at the open, standing

it was just a true or false statement,
 no nerve-wracking experience needed
 number of words are not required
 chill, there're no rules applied

it was just a test even the dumbest dumb can slay
 like a quest safe to play
 where chances are unlimited
 Of course, cheating is not prohibited

It was so easy at first...
 Until I receive a blank paper,
 a simple click started the timer
 and the next thing I know
 I was in the middle of a life and death situation

it was not as simple as arithmetic
 Complicated values made it horrific
 mazes, puzzles, and logic to be decoded
 it takes more than a formula, theory, and explanation for it to be solved

Careful, options were playful and tricky
 Conditions were demanding
 Standards could only tolerate the highest
 it is designed for failure at its finest

I was a fool to think it was just a child's play
 Now I've got consequences to face and prices to pay
 There was no escape
 No one knows the aftermath of all of these but fate

Until the final buzz...
 Time ran out.
 Finish or not finish,
 Pass your papers now

But before it flew away from my hands,
 I wrote a letter at the back
 "Warning: do not take the test called love, its deadly"



ENTERTAINMENT

Comics

ALARM CLOCK By JOSHUA E. PADEL



GIFT By PAULINE JOYCE L. LAGMAY



Word Search

By JON ALEC MENDEL G. ADONA

- BUZZBAIT
 - JACQUARD
 - JAMBEAUX
 - SKIPJACK
 - QUADPLEX
 - OXAZEPAM
 - CAZIQUES
 - MEZUZOTH
 - HAZZANIM
 - DYZZING
- BUZZKILL
 - ZUGZWANG
 - QUIZZERS
 - JUMPOFFS
 - CATCALL
 - GUMDROP
 - FLUMMOX
 - PRANCE
 - ADZE
 - TWIBILL

HIDDEN MESSAGE

Get your answer from the puzzle area.

_____E_____E_____E
 __E__E E___. THOMAS FULLER

A L L T H I P N Q G S A R E D I H F F I C U
 L T B E F R O U R O E C T H H A E Y A R E J
 E A S Y A P I H X T A B Z M Z T J Z B I U U
 G Y O N X Z O A Z Z D U T Z K A O U H M Q T
 L X C L Z E Z R I G G R A I M C Z Z P S W L
 D E O E L E L Q D Z N N A B A Z A O U I S A
 T P R M P A U P W M I I E U K B F J B Z D U
 L S D A M E C A D M U A Z I Q F Z I P Z E R
 I D M Y S U N T R A U G L Z S C L Z E I A M
 Y Y V U E G L S A X U L O H Y L A T U Z K E
 W S A N M U R F K C S Q K V N D V J G B E S