

REVIEW



*Heart-warming
and Insightful
Personal
Stories*

*Life is Not
Bitter at All*

*Greater than
the Greatest*

*Batch 2013
Creme d' la Creme*

*Footnote
to Graduates*

*81st Foundation
Anniversary Highlights*

Setting the Race

REVIEW

OFFICIAL STUDENT PUBLICATION
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

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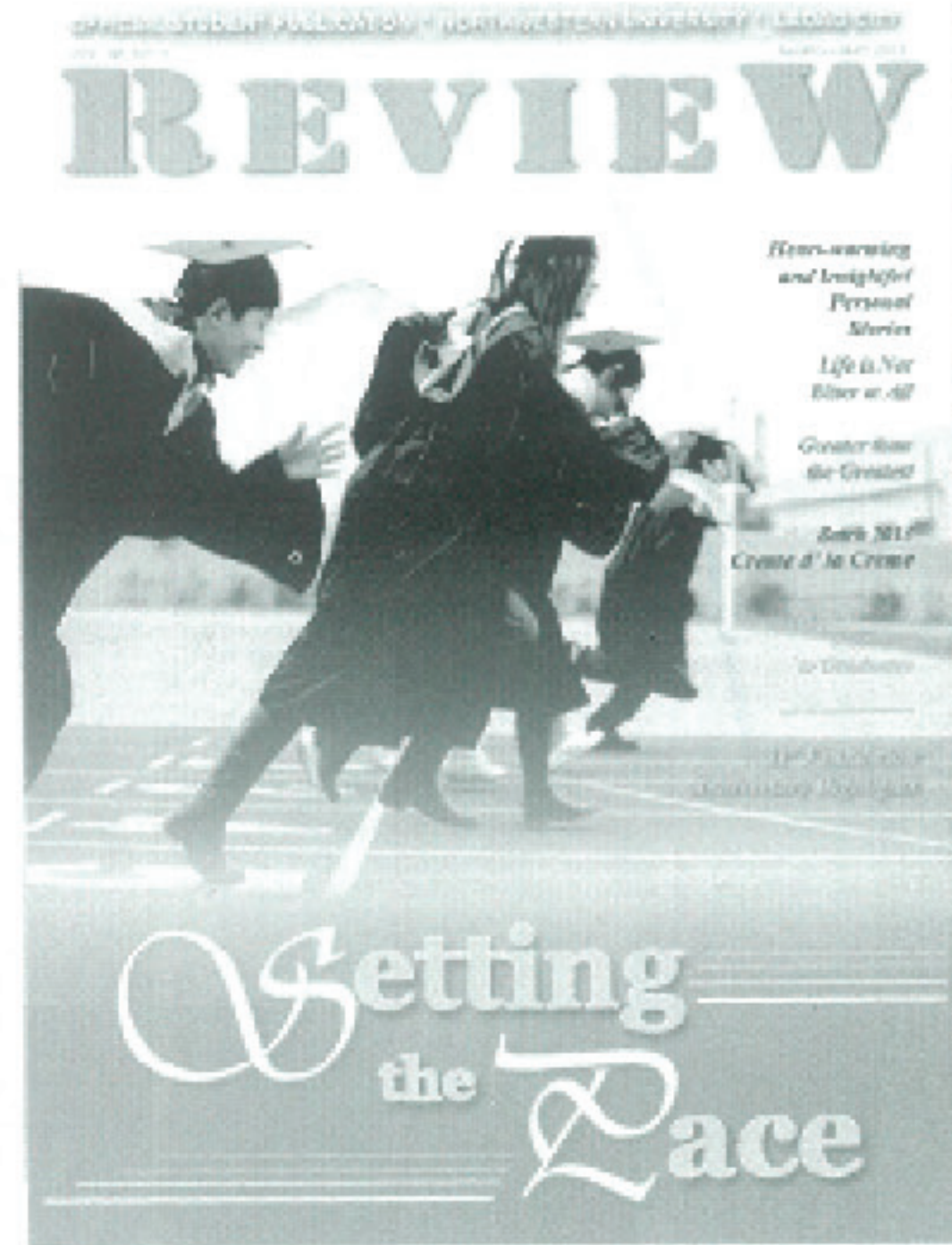
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You can submit original poems, essays, short stories, photos, and drawings. Please include your name, year and course and contact number. Visit the **REVIEW** office for more details.

About the cover



Graduation does not mean that the race is over. It is the start of a long journey. Amidst the race are obstacles that hinder and stop you from going. You will just find big rocks of failures scattered on the road. If you are not prudent, you will fall. If you are not strong, you may not stand again.

You must possess proper values to guide you along the way. Those who have the right values will find a smooth sailing in their undertakings. Having proper values aids a person to conquer challenges that come along the way.

Always give your best and keep the faith. Consider it a victory after the fall. Dream and set your mind to the goal of grabbing the torch that awaits the finish line.

In the end, it matters not how long you stayed in the track, but how well you use your knowledge, resources and proper values acquired to win the race. *(Photo credit: Google Image)*

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A word from the editor

“I *t's not the end; it's just the beginning of our journey.”*

A quote we often hear during the end of a school year, especially for the graduating students. Indeed, life is an unending journey that only death could stop. As time goes by, we have to move on and discover new things in life.

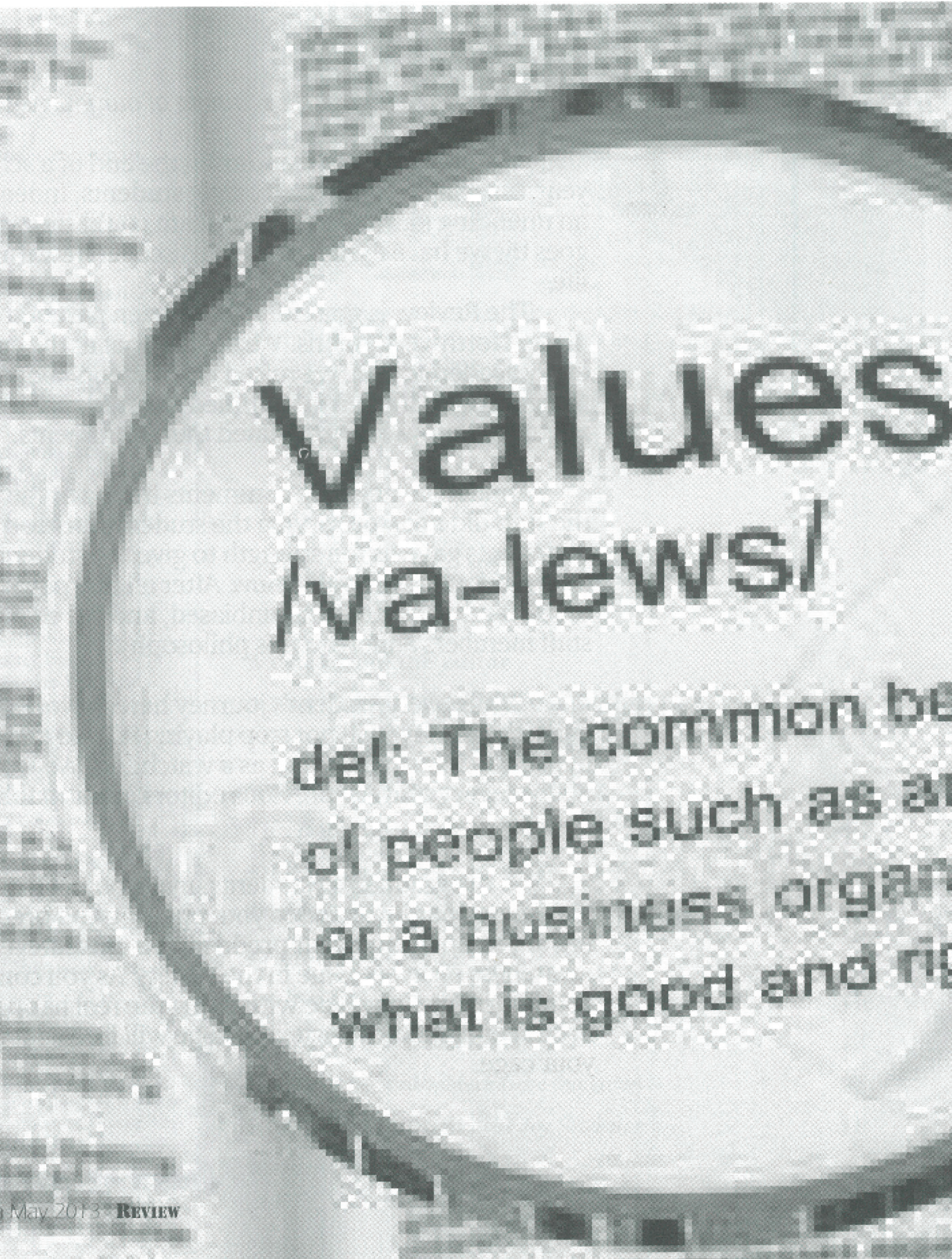
The Review is grateful to have been part of the journey of Northwesternians. We believe that at the end of every academic year, we raised the students' awareness on things around them. We informed the students what they needed to know. We articulated their sentiments.

Amidst the negative comments hurled at the paper, the staff did not stop serving the students. Instead such comments gave us the strength to give the students the information they should know. After all, the paper lived up to its stand as fearless and unbiased, and the editors and staff members adhere to this philosophy.

While every student's journey here in Northwestern ends, the Review will not stop playing its role as purveyors of truthful information and as a watchdog. We will continue the legacy that the previous editors of this publication have started.

To the graduating students, may you not forget what the Review has imparted to you: opening and presenting to you an avenue that prodded you to create a level of awareness on every issue in the society. As you continue your journey, you will be witnessing the real happenings in our country. Knowing every issue will free you from your cage.

A footnote to my

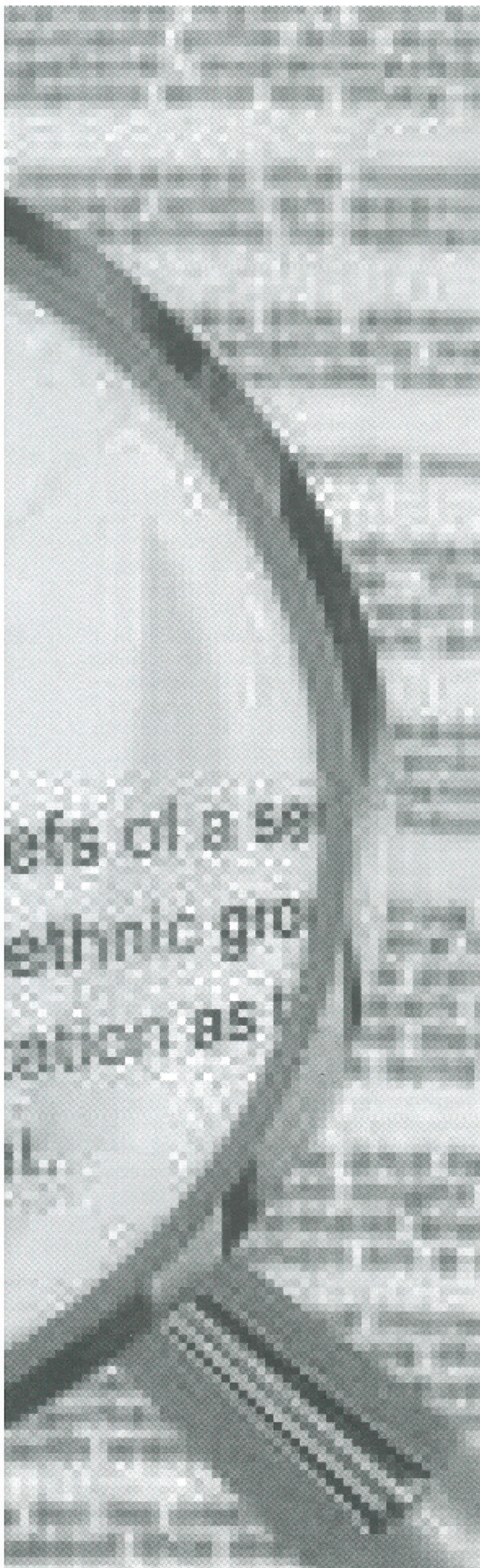
A black and white photograph of a magnifying glass held over an open dictionary. The lens is focused on the definition of the word 'values'. The background shows the blurred text of other pages in the dictionary.

values
/va-'lews/

del: The common belief of people such as an individual or a business organization of what is good and right.

fellow graduates

By Jonard Evangelista



After four years or more of “training” in the university, we, the graduates could probably say we have gained ample knowledge and skills to use as weapons in the battlefield called the “real world.”

But that would not suffice to make us victors in the new playing field because we need the most important weapon to face the challenges that come along the way, and that is, having the right attitude.

Before we even think of finding a job to make a living, we must think first if we really possess the proper values that will make us survive our first years in our jobs. Is it a big deal? Well, it is.

Consider this: A news story I read two years ago tells about a hotel manager in a prestigious hotel in Manila who hires employees on the basis of the applicants’ values.

The story goes that when she hires, she would ask first about the applicants’ values system. She intimated she prefers to give priority to the applicant’s values and attitudes to the latter’s skills and knowledge because she believes that industrial harmony in the workplace would be assured and that the employees would do the right thing even if no one is looking. The news story highlighted the manager’s decision to promote a janitor based on his honesty. The janitor had returned a big amount of money to a customer who left it in the hotel.

A former desk editor of a newspaper here in Ilocos who was given the authority by the publisher-owner to hire reporters for the paper also observed such kind of hiring strategy. Sharing her experiences with friends, she said she put premium to the values and attitudes of the applicants over and above their credentials. That way, she said, people working together with shared values and philosophy would be easier to deal with and that harmony in the workplace is guaranteed.

Here is another example. A GMA 7 program titled, *Diyos at Bayan* which I happened to watch tackled the influx of millions of graduates this year in the employment world. Aside from discussing about the job opportunities that are in demand and the high percentage of unemployment and underemployment in the Philippines, the host and guests integrated in the discussion the employees’ possessing the right attitude in the workplace.

The program host, Kata Inocencio who was tasked to hire employees, relates that she also looks at the attitude of the applicant over his aptitude.

“*Eh ano naman kung matalino ka kung lahat naman nakakaaway mo*” (What good would your intelligence bring if you cross sword with everyone), she said.

Inocencio also said that if an applicant is in the entry level, the applicant should not desire a high salary. That’s basic because you are still starting. You still have to prove something to yourself. Unless you are the company’s COO – the child of the owner.

The point here is that, a lot of jobs are available as listed in the Department of Labor and Employment. But the problems are that applicants are choosy. They want a high paying job even if they are just starting; applicants are also lazy to look for a job, and that applicants also lack the right attitude. While they may get a job, later on they will resign, be forced to resign or be terminated because of the lack of foundation in his/her values system.

You may be the most intelligent person but if you lack the proper values and work ethics, most likely you will not succeed. You might say, you don’t need it because you have a “backer” and you can do whatever you want to do. But I tell you, you will not find self-fulfillment.

One thing to remember is that when you are in the entry level, refrain from thinking a high salary. Be content with what is offered you. Have faith in God, pray to Him that He will bless you and your workplace and that He will guide you to always do the right thing.

Just remember a verse in Proverbs which says, “In everything you do, put God first, and He will direct you and crown your efforts with success” (3:6). ■

“Before we even think of finding a job to make a living, we must think first if we really possess the proper values that will make us survive our first years in our jobs.”

Life's not

bitter at all

"With Him, I feel the love and appreciation which I long to have since my childhood. The pain that I kept before slowly healed when I came to know Him."

By Able Real

Illustrated by Mark Christopher Rivera

Sometimes when we see other people's mistakes, we tend to forget our own imperfections. Do we ever realize that we do things that others frown upon? Do we ever know that we are really "committing" mistakes when we veer away from the norm? Why do we sometimes find our way but forget to find our real selves? Simple. We crave for LOVE and APPRECIATION.

When I was in grade school, my parents legally separated and I felt lost. I didn't know whom to believe or whose fault why their separation happened. Blame was all over. It was like everybody feels he/she is right but the truth is, no one is right, nor wrong. So, to end my confusion, I believed no one but myself. As a result, I became an "intellectual person" in the minds of others though I knew I'm not.



Drinking alcohol at night, having no work and forgetting she has five children, my mother acted as if she was no longer my mother anymore. I was hurt seeing her that way. I did nothing. I just kept on hiding myself in my room, talking to no one, and keeping my vulnerable self alone.

During that time, I started to hide what I really felt until it exploded.

My mother and I were having a little argument that grew bigger, and bigger. I could not forget that time. It was a silent night until people heard noises coming from our small house. It was like a roaring wind came to town unexpectedly which caught others' attention. No one knew I could be that rebellious. We were fighting about a box, where food and snacks for the week were stored, sent to us by our grandmother. I was about to sleep and suddenly, my mother told me to carry the box from our garage to our living room. Instead of following her, I disobeyed her. To cut it short, I ended up saying things that I kept for a long time and her saying things that made me feel bad, too.

So as not to continue hurting ourselves, my father took me and our oldest sister in his apartment – making us live with his second wife. Luckily, "she" is not a wicked stepmother just like what Cinderella had. My older sister and I were there when "they" were having their own first daughter. Then, after some years, another baby was born. It was not an awful thing to have step sisters, rather, it was something special. It made me feel that it was better for our step sisters to have our father than to come back to us. At least, we are much older than our step sisters. The thought that my step sisters would also be in our

situation of having separated parents breaks my heart.

It was not that long when we went back to our home. I was really glad seeing our mom coming around and returned to the mother I knew before.

At that time, I was very weak. I could not help myself. I couldn't stop some people from hurting me. I have believed that what you want is what you don't get and things go the other way around when you expect things to happen. So I remained pessimistic despite the situation. But there came a time when I couldn't handle things anymore. I became optimistic. And somewhere in the darkness, I found someone who changed who I was. I fell in love with someone I was with and I couldn't be with, changed the person I was before. I fell in love with a man. I knew then, it was crazy loving this person. But to stop that feeling I have for him is even crazier.

He changed me by not removing my authentic self – I have controlled my anger and tell this with grace and patience. When I seem to lose my way... I always remember what he said:

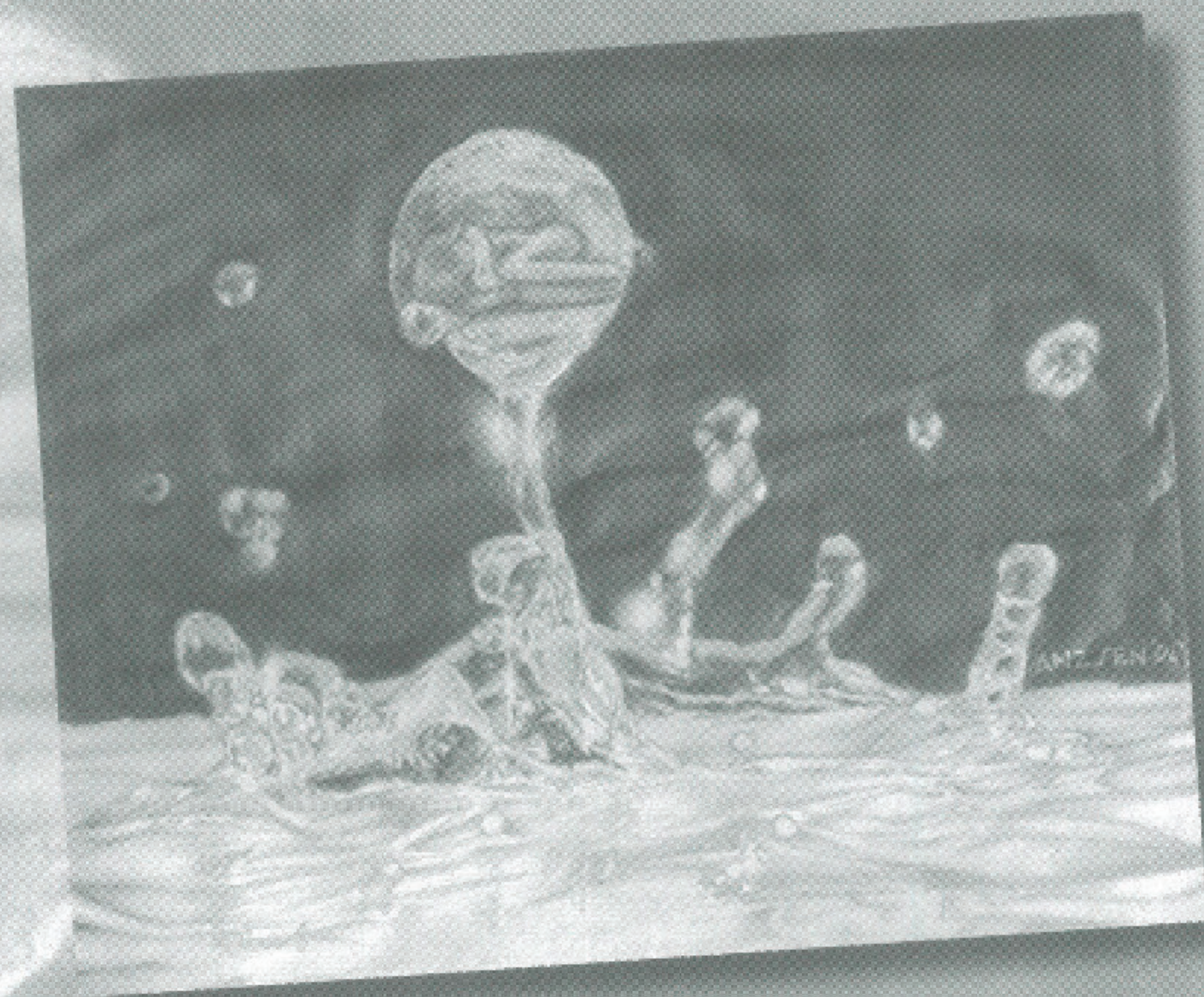
"Huwag ka ng umiyak. Kaya mo yan. Alam ko, strong ka. Hindi mahalaga ang problema kaya, huwag mo ng isipin iyon. Ang importante, 'yong solusyon kaya 'yon ang isipin mo. Lagi mo ring iisipin... mas maganda ang bukas. Huwag mo silang iwan. Kailangan ka nila para may mag-guide. Makakatulong pa yan sa sarili mo."

With Him, I feel the love and appreciation which I long to have since my childhood. The pain that I kept before slowly healed when I came to know Him. He made me realize what I really wanted – my family getting happier and stronger. ■

Greater than the Greatest

By Jenny Edu

Illustrated by Janssen Badua



“We can have a sizeable amount of money, we can sleep on a comfortable bed. We can eat the most delicious food. We can teach and advise others’ concerns.

But when we fail to get what we want, we refuse to understand that unfulfilled desires blur our appreciation of the more important things in life.”

The profundity of things can be learned anywhere and any-time. Like a seedling flipping out of its shell as it germinates, a student grows as he learns many things around him from which he can draw some insights to know more about life.

In life, we devote most of our time and energy on things that do not last. Hardly do we know that these things are just temporal. We fail to recognize that these things are perishable. We think that they bring us satisfaction.

We desire fame, a luxurious life embellished with cars and jewelries. And we want to be the best all the time. We want to be a star, to have bunch of medals and certificates, to be at the top and a perpetual winner. We step on people’s toes, strip others of their dignity, injure their feelings just to get what we desire.

We can have a sizeable amount of money, we can sleep on a comfortable bed. We can eat the most delicious food. We can teach and advise others’ concerns.

But when we fail to get what we want, we refuse to understand that unfulfilled desires

blur our appreciation of the more important things in life.

True, we may have the money, but we suffer from illness – physical, emotional and spiritual. We sleep on a soft bed but we feel uneasy, thinking all the lies we have made throughout the day.

A better understanding of what I am driving at is that a student who I considered lucky has a health problem. A student who carries the name of a prominent family is a loner. Perhaps, nobody knows that the stunning beauty of a former classmate hides the fallout between her and her parents. My point here is that we can own everything we want, but if we can’t have happiness, respect, love and health, we can never have true fulfillment in our lives.

Simple yet meaningful things can give us fulfillment. Sometimes we forget to thank our parents for their unceasing love and support. Thanking them may not translate to material things for them but saying thank you counts a lot. One told me that families exist so we can have an avenue to understand what love, compassion and understanding mean in their purest and supreme form. ■

the detectives

By Eunice Agbayani

they call me KJ. They call me Maria Clara. Some call me out of place and alien. I am a first year college now and yet it feels like I'm not. Why? Simple. After school, I go home immediately. I dress like a child – super conservative. I don't know where the latest bars and malls are located and I don't know the latest gossips in showbiz and even in school. But ask me the latest book of Dan Brown and I'll name it. Give me your assignment in business math and I'll solve it. Talk about the latest headlines in the television and I'll join your group. Still, I don't seem to fit in with my peers. I hope they know how much I want to be with them. I hope they know how I love to hang around with them. But I just can't do.

It's 2:30 pm and my mom calls me on the phone asking me where I am. Of course I'm having a class. I know what's next, she's gonna ask me to go home early. As usual! It's 5:30 pm and I'm already at home. She and my dad welcomed me with a glass of juice and a sandwich. After several minutes, they began to investigate. They began asking questions like where have I been after school? Where did I eat for lunch? Who was

I with? Were there exams in school? How is my performance? I didn't answer anything except a deep breath. Here we go again, the detectives are on-duty.

Since I was a child, I was taught to respect and to obey my parents. When I was in elementary, they would drop and pick me in school. I had always considered it as a sign of their love. During my high school years, I would always inform them where I was whenever we had meetings or projects to do. Again, I had considered my deference to them as a sign of my love and respect for them.

But now that I'm in college, they seem to become more strict. It seems that I'm a criminal and they are like detectives who are watching my every move. Whenever I want to go somewhere and they say no, I don't protest. Each time I want to be with someone and they say no, I don't say "but." Whenever I want something and they say no, it's always a no. For me, that's too much already.

I'm 17 years old and I can decide on my own. At last! I had the courage to tell them. But the discussion didn't work out. They accused my friends as bad companions as if they're teaching me how to sell drugs. I raised my voice and walked out. That night, my parents came to my room and talked to me.

I will never forget their words that night. It made me cry for two reasons. First, I was sorry for what I've done and second, I was so glad that they are my parents. They told me that the things they were doing are for my own protection. They said they are afraid of letting me cross my pain because I'm still young. They said sorry and promised not to be super strict again. That time I realized, parents are not detectives but lifeguards in a beach. They always have a better vantage point from which to see danger. ■

"But now that I'm in college, they seem to become more strict. It seems that I'm a criminal and they are like detectives who are watching my every move."



Google Image
©2004 Jeff Buccino

“I fell on the floor and start sobbing. I am always rejected. I have no one. I fail in everything. I cursed God for it. I have been a very good daughter since the day I was born but why does God punish me like this?”

It was 12:00 midnight and I just came home from a party. Coming home everyday made no difference. Dinner in the refrigerator and a post-it note on its door stating that my allowance was already remitted were the usual things that welcome me. I went directly to my room and sat on my bed. Gazing at the four walls of my bedroom made me feel so uneasy. Again, for the hundredth time, I realized the emptiness of my life. I lie down in my bed looking intently to a certain part – the lowest portion of my cabinet. There, a sharp and pointed thing which I've been keeping for three weeks now was well-hidden under my old books.

“Now,” I told myself. “I'm ready. No one loves me. No one cares for me. I'm ready to go. I won't wake up like this again tomorrow.”

Holding the pointed thing on my left hand, I carefully examined everything in my room thinking I won't see them again. On top of the cabinet was a picture taken nine months ago – a picture of a boy and a girl hugging each other after a graduation ceremony. Beside it was a wooden frame showing a picture of my parents when I was still in my mother's womb. Tears flowed. To avoid the memories to keep coming back, I stepped backward. Accidentally, I stepped on the small trash can which made it turned upside down, leaving every piece of trash scattered. There, I saw crum-

pled blue books and torn test papers. I remember the exams that I had failed during the preliminary exam. The failed marks caused my removal from the dean's list as a college scholar.

I fell on the floor and start sobbing. I am always rejected. I have no one. I fail in everything. I cursed God for it. I have been a very good daughter since the day I was born but why does God punish me like this? I opened my window to feel the cold breeze for the last time. Without any hesitation, I sat on the floor and put the pointed thing on my wrist. As I was about to cut my wrist, a strong wind came from my window, making everything in my study table fly. Pictures and documents were strewn on the floor. There, I saw my picture with my mom in the church a month ago and pictures with my friends during our happy moments for the last three weeks. For a moment, I glanced at the pointed thing on my wrist and cried so hard.

Today, as I walk through the corridors of our school, I feel happy and contented. Even if my mom and my dad failed to bring back their relationship, so with me and my ex-boyfriend and even if I failed in my exams, I never regret that I changed my mind. For me, what happened that time was a miracle from God. It's his way of saying that I'm never alone. What I am today is a proof that ending it all is never a solution. ■

Ending it all...

By Eunice Agbayani

81st Foundation Anniversary

HIGHLIGHTS



*PHOTO CREDITS: NWU-CMRC

Legacy Award

The University cited two educational leaders for their great contribution to the development of the institution and for their commitment to the vision of its founders.

The Legacy Award, the first to be given to individuals who have served the University with unequivocal commitment to the cause of education and to the institution, was awarded to Mrs. Erlinda M. Gloria and Ms. Evelyn Baraoidan, both former vice presidents for academic affairs.

The recognition was conferred to them during the 81st foundation anniversary of the University. Following are the citations bestowed on them:



Erlinda M. Gloria

In distinctive recognition of her sterling qualities of magnanimity, fortitude, unswerving loyalty to Northwestern and its causes, relentless zeal and dedication to duty, penchant for excellence, deep-seated commitment to upholding human dignity and integrity, intense initiative in the pursuit of accreditation that paved the way to the granting of university status, topped by an unceasing devotion to and abiding faith in God... all vital legacies that promote, sustain and perpetuate, in no justifiable measure, the noble mission, vision and goals of this great institution as laid out by its sacrificing founders and subsequent leaders.

Evelyn V. Baraoidan

In acknowledgment of her exceptional and unquestionable loyalty to the University; her unwavering commitment to the aggressive development of quality education; her compelling determination to promote environmental consciousness and nature conservation through the creation of a research-based Botanic Garden; and her passionate pursuit towards the attainment of International Organization for Standardization (ISO) certification, the global symbol of quality and excellence for Northwestern University that realized, defined and guaranteed the fulfillment of the vision, mission and goals of the courageous and visionary founders of this dynamic and resilient institution.



Loyalty Award

10 years

Dexell D. Antonio
Honeylet A. Siazon
Rudy P. Bareng
Anabel A. Blanes
Razel A. Francisco
Angelita C. Guerrero
Louie A. Guerrero
Lailani L. Guieb
Joel M. Maneja
Miriam Rizalina A. Otico
Merlina G. Pagtacconan
Romeo A. Paguirigan
Egdonna A. Quinto
Meryl M. Quiñones
Rex J. Sebastian
Aldrin C. Tumamao
Vinclein O. Urmata

15 years

Fidelino N. Bagaoisan
Victoria M. Balcanao
Ligaya A. Campos

Ma. Theresa L. Carbonell

Lorna R. Castillo
Christopher M. Cid
Mariscel L. De Guzman
Amerly Esperanza B. Dumlao
Chita A. Gonzales
Rommel T. Guerrero
Edgar N. Lazo
Roshelle A. Macadangdang
Adelaida P. Manglal-lan
Juliet S. Pascual
Divina M. Quezada
Erlita P. Sahagun

20 Years

Rey D. Clemente
Olivia N. Dalimot
Julito P. Domingo
Bernabe S. Flores
Melvin A. Pimentel
Ofelia Constanca O. Ramiro
Olivia S. Rasos
Elvira P. Santiago

Rolando S. Quitariano

Flordelina B. Utleg

25 Years
Glorina A. Curameng

30 Years

Ruth Ruby R. Corsino
Floresita C. Pe Benito

Land of Champions



Batch 2013

Creame d'



Philip Edgar A. Ines
Magna Cum Laude
Master of Arts in Nursing

Among thousands of students, only few are blessed to be at the top of their class. They are those who work hard, and study well to reach their dreams. They do not give up amidst the exhausting times, -cramming thesis, projects, and sleepless nights.

Two Magna Cum Laude have shown they can be at the top of their class with the right attitude. They excel in their chosen fields. Let's get to know the student achievers, as

they share their goals, dreams and tips to inspire the NWU students in charting their own success.

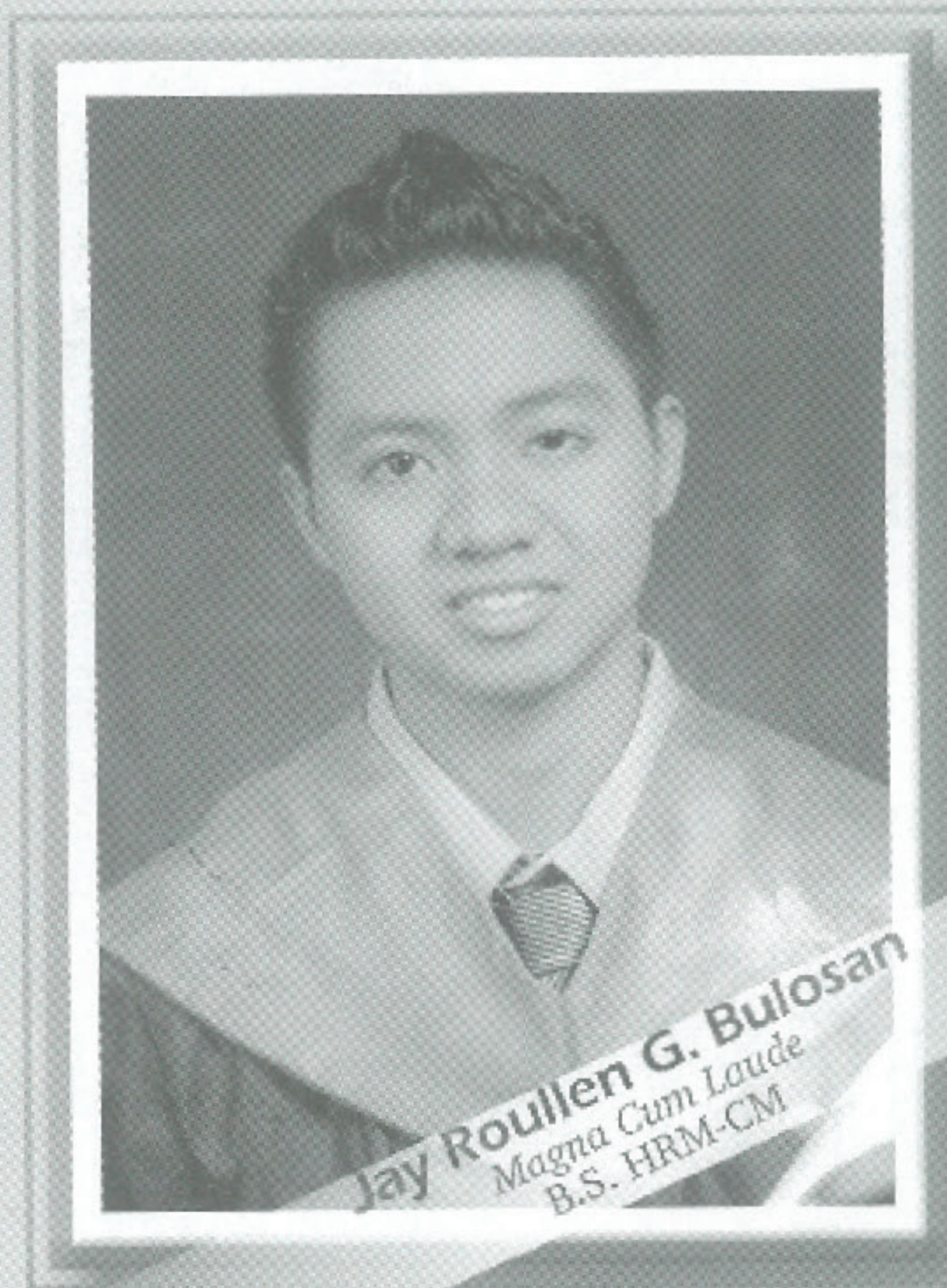
Jay Roullen Gallarde Bolusan, BS Hotel and Restaurant Management graduated as class valedictorian of the undergraduate batch of 2013. He attributes his success to spending most of his time studying hard so he could graduate with flying colors.

Jay is grateful to his mother and siblings who shared much of their time and love.

He always dreams of navigating the world to see new sights and hear new sound that's why he took BS HRM major in Cruise Management.

Jay says that he wants to be successful in his career where his family and the NWU can be proud of him. He would also like to touch people's lives if given the chance by helping the deserving but deprived and disadvantaged students get an education.

He shares his experiences with students,



Jay Roullen G. Bulosan
Magna Cum Laude
B.S. HRM-CM



Lee Jay N. Lucero
Magna Cum Laude
B. S. in Criminology

la Creme

inspiring them, telling them to set their goals and do their best to achieve things, and take difficulties and problems as challenges and opportunities. "You can be bent to adversities that you meet in school but do not snap like an old tough tree," he says.

He tells the students to stay humble and to have constant communication with the Lord for guidance.

"You must believe in yourself; believe that you hold the future in your hands," he says.

Lee Jay De Las Nieves Lucero says he spent his time in college wisely, attending his class regularly, studying and doing his homework. He balanced it by participating in university activities and spending some time with his friends.

He dreams of becoming a role model to the people and to be one of the most outstanding public servants in the Philippines. To fulfill this, he says that he wants to be an

officer of the PNP that's why he took BS Criminology.

He says his family and his girlfriend serve as his inspiration and he wants them to become proud of him and he wants to give everything they never had as long as he can.

He tells the students that if they want to succeed, they must "reach for the sky for it is not high as it seems."

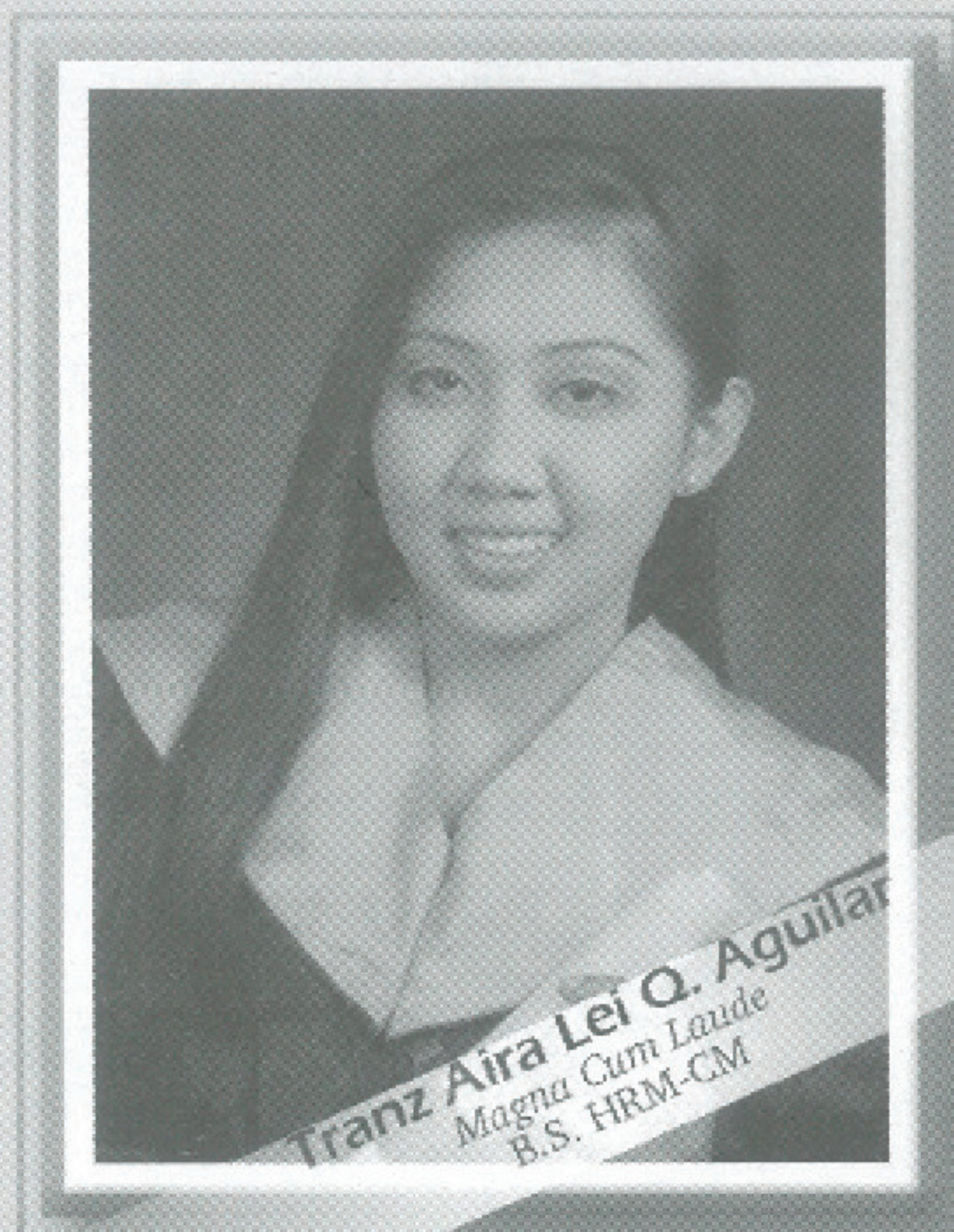
He tells them to follow their heart and go as far as their dreams.

"Dare if you want to, don't fear the fall," he says. ■

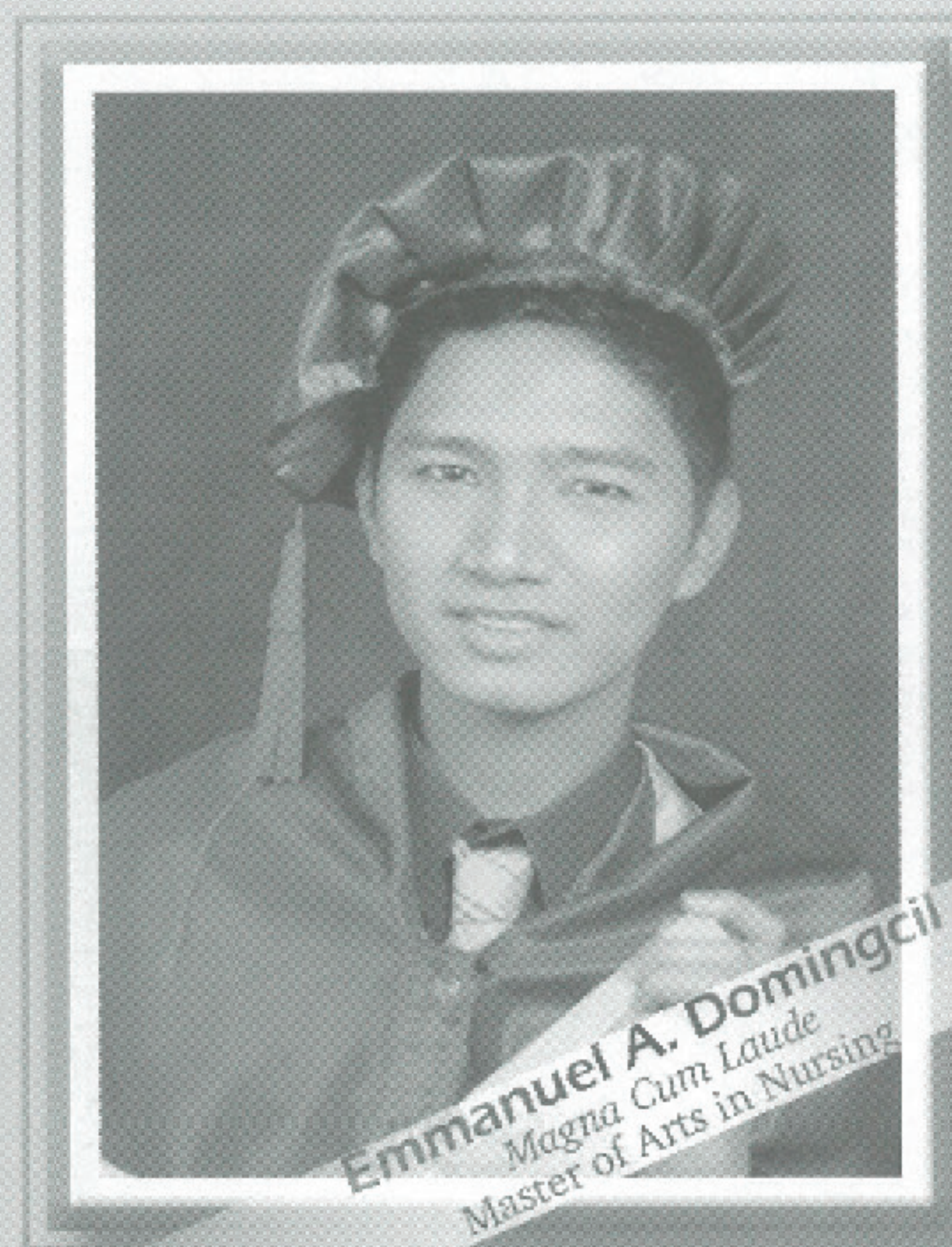
(See more awardees next page)



Juliet J. Galutira
Magna Cum Laude
Master of Arts in Education



Tranz Aira Lei Q. Aguilar
Magna Cum Laude
B.S. HRM-CM



Emmanuel A. Domingcil
Magna Cum Laude
Master of Arts in Nursing

*PHOTO CREDITS: NWU-CMRC

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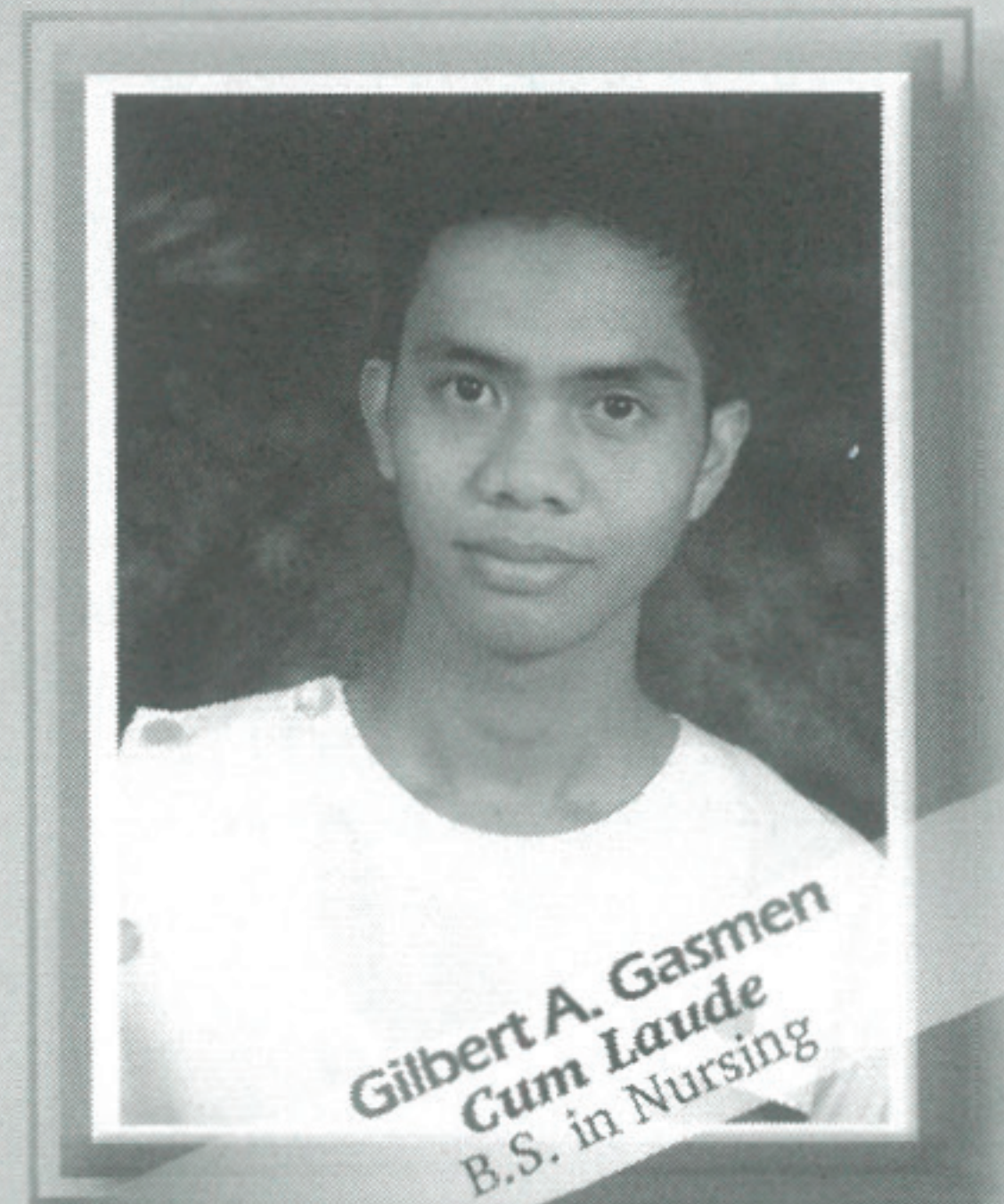
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Batch 2013

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Gilbert A. Gasmen
Cum Laude
B.S. in Nursing

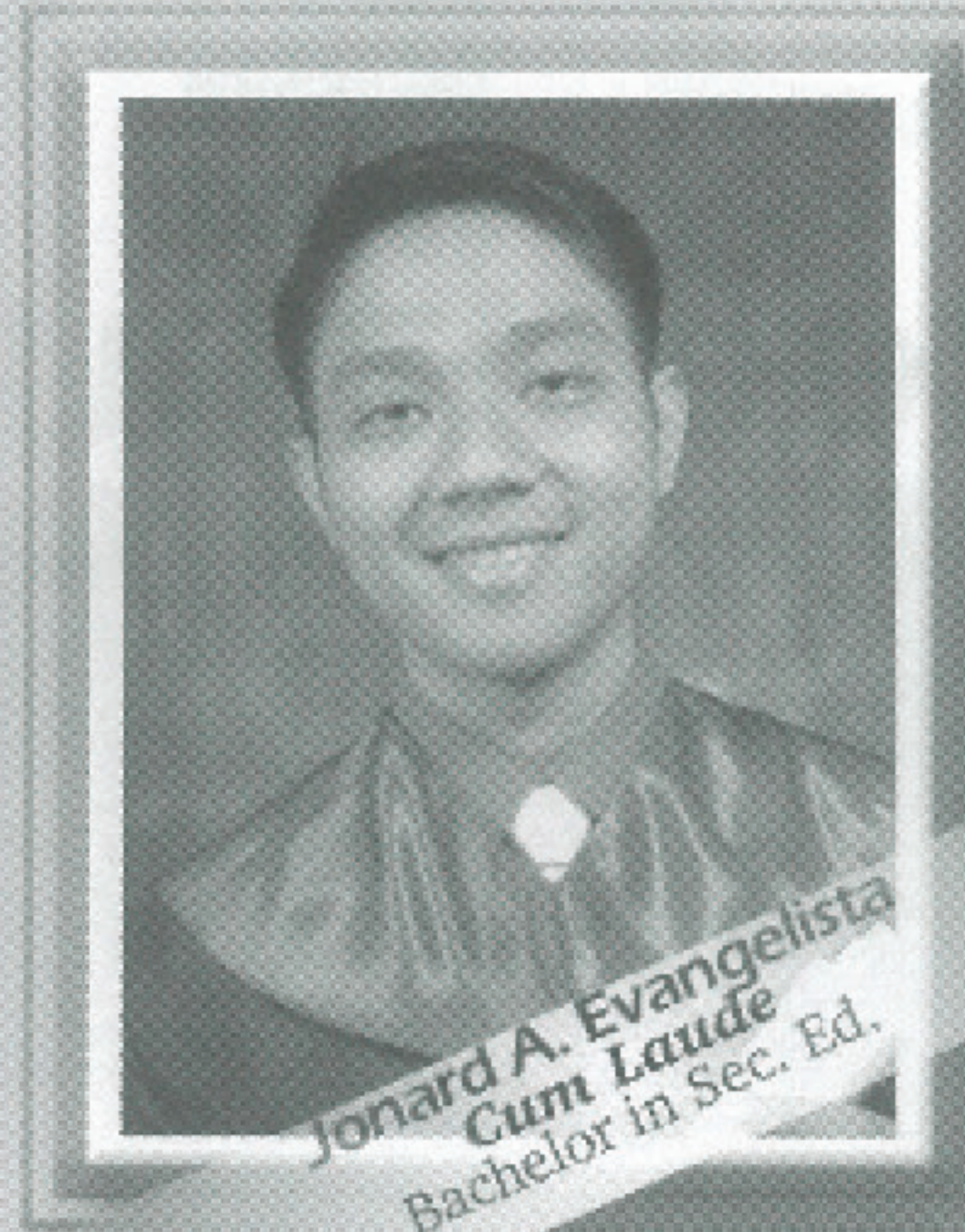


Ella L. Quitariano
Cum Laude
B.S. in Bus. Ad.-Mngt. Acctg.



Coleen Jill B. Saliganan
Cum Laude
B.S. in Criminology

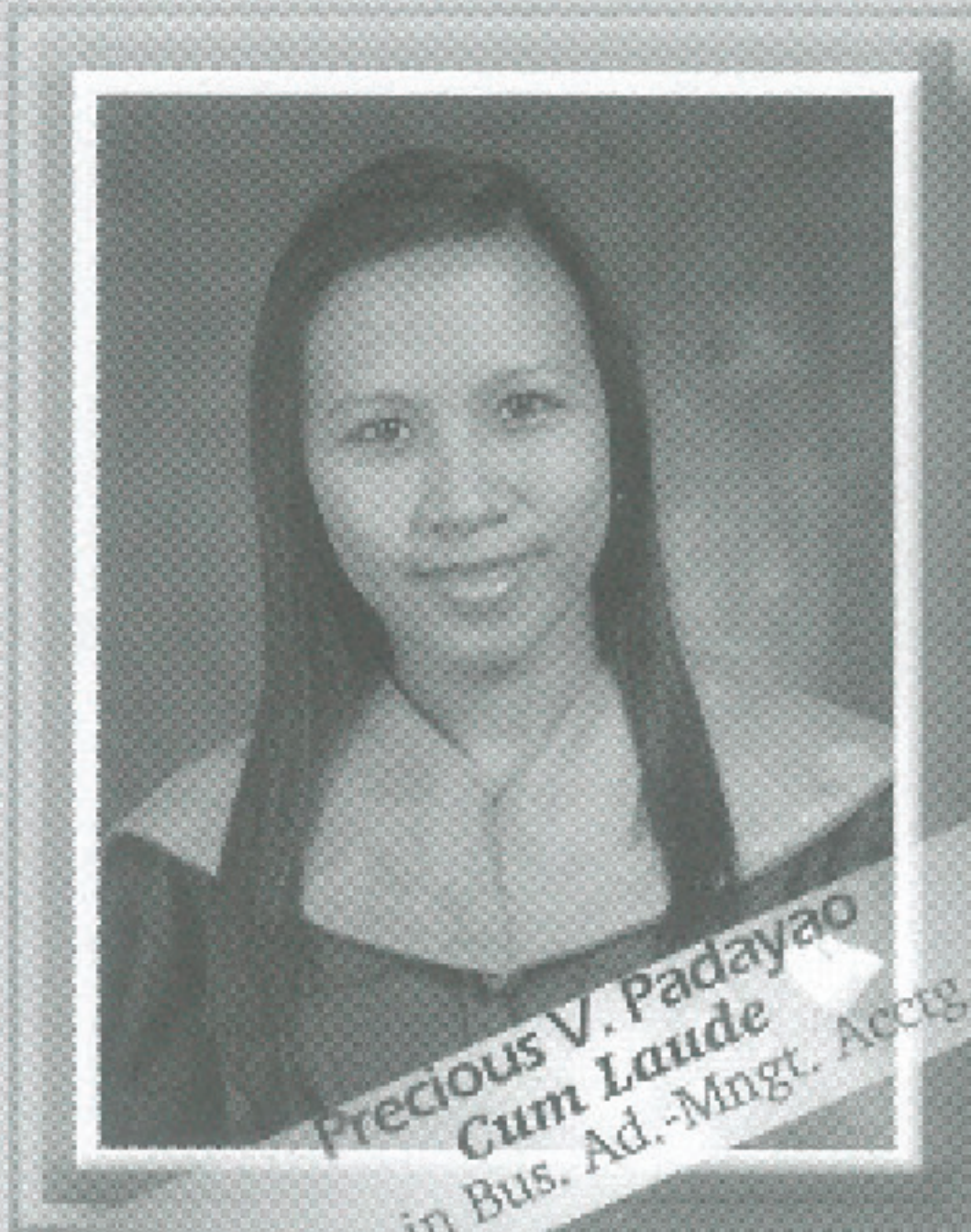
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Jonard A. Evangelista
Cum Laude
Bachelor in Sec. Ed.



Mark Gele S. Pungilan
Cum Laude
B.S. in Criminology



Precious V. Padayao
Cum Laude
B.S. in Bus. Ad.-Mngt. Acctg.



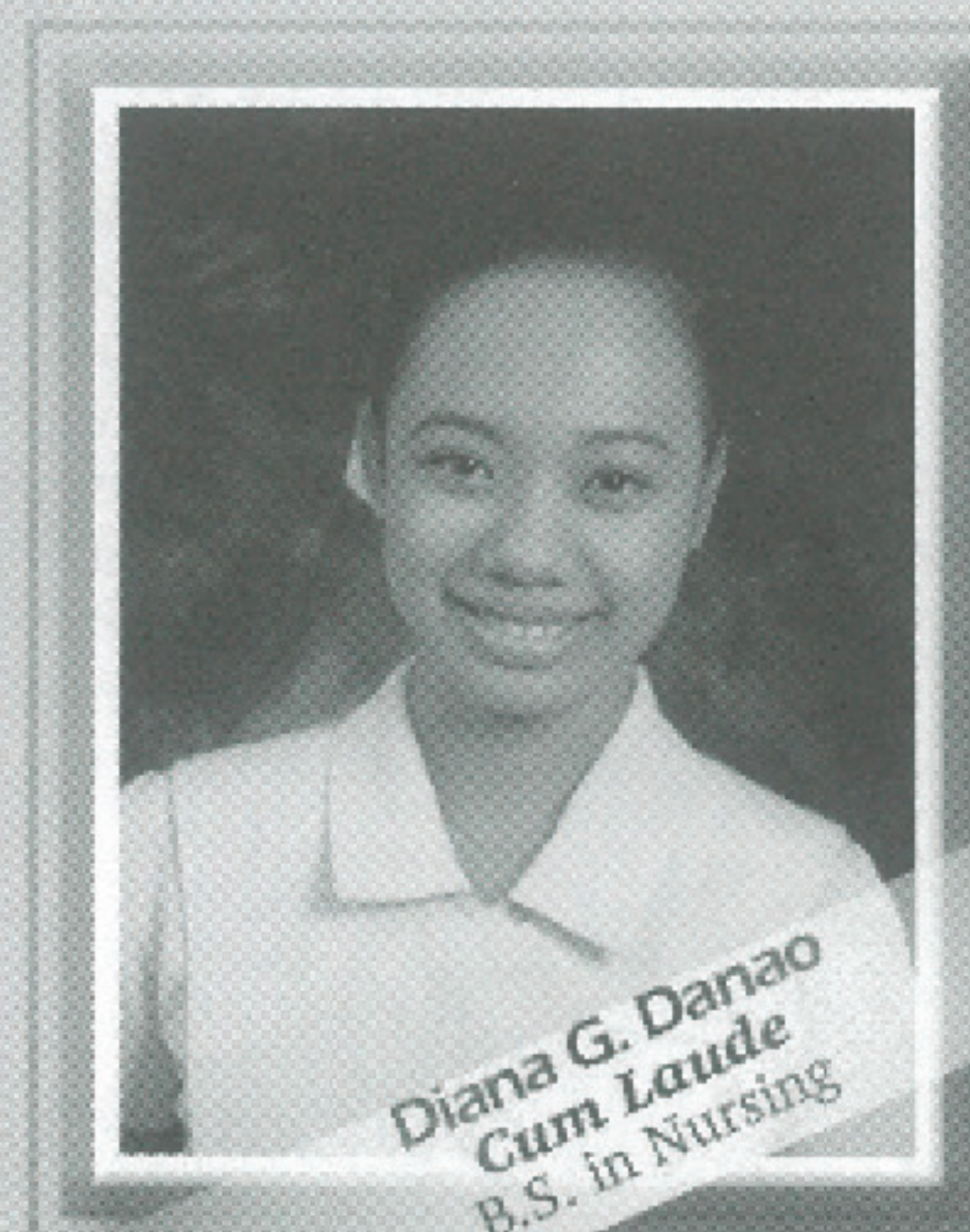
Christine Eve C. Gabriel
Cum Laude
B.S. in Criminology



Carmela Grace P. Antonio
Cum Laude
B.S. in Bus. Ad.-Mngt. Acctg.



Lorelei Anne Fabillar
Cum Laude
B. S. HRM-LEP



Diana G. Danao
Cum Laude
B.S. in Nursing



Trishia Li Jhunine S. Padilla
Special Academic Award
B.S. in Psychology

INKBLOTS

| Kathleen Gajultos



Reminiscing some good old times in NWU

I cannot contain my happiness for finally graduating in my dream course. Finishing the course is quite fulfilling. After so many struggles, never giving up for each term (prelim, midterm and finals), I am now a degree holder in Accountancy.

My college was ordinary but really memorable. My experiences of being trapped in a long queue during payments at the finance office, talking to my teachers, asking for special exams, oftentimes wasting my time worrying for my grades if it were maintained above the cut-off for the accountancy program, were like a usual cycle in my college days. I also felt shortchanged, that I was not able to see clearly how my instructors rate my

performances in class. Yet I admit that my laziness and complacency brought all the problems and regrets.

After passing through all of this, I must really thank God for his grace, though I don't feel like I deserve every grace I received from Him -the scholarships and the accountancy. And with these thoughts I am not proud for myself but humbled for my imperfections. These have been very effective in keeping my feet on the ground.

Challenges test our strength and faith. They can make or break us, and they remain as they are. We can't stop them and say "don't block my way; I do not want to hurdle." Neither can we say enough! then change the course and then start anew - for challenges exist to mold us. They are like fire that shape and strengthen the steel. They build one's character and reveal the gift of God in us. As Francis Bacon once said: "Prosperity discovers vice, adversity discovers virtue." Upon this real-

ization, I find my challenges in the college days as contributing factor to my growth.

The Review has to leave for a while but not its goal to serve the students. The editors and staff would like to thank the students who take courage to use the publication as a medium in expressing their sentiments. We take pride on these simple things we have contributed in strengthening the foundations of the university. Our publication is not only a vehicle for news but also a solution to all things that matter to students. Students own the publication and we hope that they will also care for it, use it and start to make a change.

I must say that being a Review staff member for four years brought me challenges that in turn became my learning tools. As the editor on my fourth year, many have tried to tell us what to do, thinking that the publication is not a serious matter, that they can use it for publicity. Some people also think the paper as one-sided because they felt the paper turned against them. Some even tried to play us in their palms using their powers to control us.

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"The editors and staff would like to thank the students who take courage to use the publication as a medium in expressing their sentiments."

PUNTO DE VISTA

| Jonard Evangelista



All I really need to know I learned from Northwestern

The 2013 graduates especially from the Liberal Arts, Commerce and Education (LACOMED) programs received an invaluable gift from the institution which is the level three re-accreditation status. Being one in this batch to enjoy such status is something.

I felt elated to see my diploma marked with "level three." I wish other graduates would also appreciate its value because that means quality education is within our reach. And behind that success are the people who shed stupendous amount of sweat just to accomplish the herculean task.

The achievement is another milestone for Northwestern which everybody should be proud of. We are now on a par with top schools in the Philippines in terms of quality education and we now also have an edge for employability.

On behalf of my fellow graduates, I sincerely express my gratitude to all those who toiled hard to make it possible with God's help to pass the level three accreditation. You have done a great job not only for the institution but also for the Ilocano students who are beneficiaries of knowledge and wisdom the institution has imbibed.

God

knows them who have worked hard for it. "Your labor is not in vain." I salute you for a job well done. Keep pressing on!

With my four-year stay in school, I must say that I was truly nurtured and well taken care of especially by those I call "mentors." They believed in my potentials and I appreciate them for believing in me.

While at times their high expectations pressured me, I didn't take this too much. Instead I respect and admire them for that. The chunks of wisdom they imbue upon me in each encounter speak a lot. They serve as my inspiration and motivation to continue pressing onward.

Whatever improvement in my capabilities, I attribute it to their unending encouragement to widen my horizon through reading good books and other reading materials.

May the good Lord continue

to make you instruments to nurture more students. I pray that other teachers emulate your good example that teaching does not end in the four corners of the classroom but even beyond that.

These mentors truly exemplify the saying, "To teach is to touch lives."

I wonder why great people are rarely seen on the spotlight. They should be the ones in the limelight, shouldn't they?

But as I perceive it, I come to realize that these people need not come out in the open because their light shines even if they are in the background because of

to page 20

"Joining the REVIEW is like entering into a fiery furnace. Those who dare pass through its flame to be honed would not emerge the same, so to speak. I am a living proof to that."

OCULO PRO

OCULO PRO OCULO

| *Mark Gelie Pungtilan*



It's not the end...It's just the beginning

In every beginning, there is an end. But they say, the end of our college life is the beginning of a new one, a brighter future, that is if, you are strong enough. That's the irony of life we have to deal with. It is not all about winning, it is more on surviving!

When I was still in high school, my colleagues and I were already discussing what courses to take and which college/university to enroll at. Some said that Northwestern University is the home of students with low I.Q. That notion clouded my judgment so badly I didn't even think of enrolling at NWU anymore. I tried other schools but due to unfortunate events, I ended up here at NWU. I was very skeptical at first. Did I make the right decision?

My decision in enrolling here at this University, or am I doomed? Later, I found out, it was the former. All those false impressions concerning the University are all wrong! I am lucky I enrolled in this institution that offers great quality education and internationally-recognized services to its clientele. You bet!

In my four-year stay at the university, I learned two things: "time is gold" and "honesty is the best policy." Yeah, I know what you guys are thinking, 'Oh c'mon, that's very common, dude!' you may say. But I tell you these, a fool may know 'what' to do, but it takes a wise man to know 'how' to do it. Some will contest, 'you are always late in your morning class, you disregard deadlines, how can you say you are giving importance to time?' Those are my mistakes in the past, it's true. Errors that I have committed, moments I have taken for granted. I will not be able to redo them because time has already passed.

Another great thing, which you

might laugh about, is being honest. Honesty goes with integrity. Both are attitudes that once lost, will never be restored, if somehow it may, will never be the same again. It's like a plain piece of paper, once crumpled, no matter what you do, it will never get back to its original form again. How will you define honesty? When you are honest to your girlfriend? When you give back excess change at the canteen? When you return lost items? Well, the best description of being honest to me is that 'being true to yourself.' Honesty starts with one's self. You will never be honest to someone if you are not honest to yourself.

What makes these two things great is that even in their simplest form, success and happiness are still the bottomlines. Value your time, cherish those 'breaks' and grab them, set great store by not procrastinating and learn to classify important to urgent matters. Be true to yourself and you will find happiness within. Some people are born great, some have greatness upon them, whichever you are, all things around you will turn out well.

Remember, your destiny is written by your own hands. ■

"Value your time, cherish those 'breaks' and grab them, set great store by not procrastinating and learn to classify important to urgent matters."

PRESS THE

PRESS THE BUTTON

| Criselle Joy Sebastian



Press the last button

It is with honor and great pride to write again in a school paper that is admired by other schools in the region for its articles that display the exercise of press freedom. My two-year stint with the publication provided me lessons that I will never learn from the hundreds of books stacked in the library. I earned memories that I will keep even if I step out of the Northwestern University portal.

I must say that I am very blessed that I got the chance to spend time with great people even if we sleep in the wee hours of the morning just to finish editing our articles, layout the tabloid and fold the papers. Those good memories, jokes, and laughter that we shared together while listening to Papa Jack every night were priceless.

Being a part of the Review will always make me proud to be a Northwesternian wherever future may lead me.

Our existence here on earth is a gift from God. We are not here by accident – we are planned. God gave us lives to serve Him and we give Him back the glory and honor.

It is heartbreaking to know that there are some who do not realize how blessed they are. All of us are given talents and gifts. Some are good in singing, dancing, public speaking, arts, writing and many others. But most of us neglected this blessing He gave us. Some cut classes to play online games. Some skip school, cheat in exams, steal

money from their parents, and drink too much alcohol, smoke and many others. We tend to forget our purpose here on earth.

I am like other students who skipped school and cheated in exams until I encountered 1 Peter 4:10 saying God has given gifts to each of you from His great variety of spiritual gifts. Manage them well so that God's generosity can flow through you. This verse struck my heart. I came to realize that skipping school for no reason, cheating during exams and being lazy in doing home works is like insulting God's gifts to me. I was ashamed of myself. So I decided to change my lifestyle for good. But as they say, change won't occur in 24 hours – it needs time.

My fellow Northwesternians, God gave you talent and special skills. Use them to honor God. If God gave you a talent in singing, then sing for Him. Study your lessons and attend your classes regularly and you will get high marks. There you will see the smooth flow of His generosity in your life.

Who says your life is a mess? No! You have a purpose here on earth. It's not too late. Be a blessing and not a burden to other people.

Flash drive is included in a

student's survival kit. It is a device where we store our life savers – our requirements.

I am glad that we now have pretty good internet connection unlike the past few years. I decided to use a computer in the Newsroom where Mass Communication students usually stay. I saved my file on my flash drive for printouts since there is no printer connected to that computer. I was shocked when I reopened my flash drive to check my file. All my files were corrupted – including my articles and documents due that day. This experience is not new to some of my classmates'.

I want to take this opportunity to call the attention of those people in-charge of the internet. Please install updated and legitimate anti-virus software in the school computers to protect our flash drives where our important documents are stored from being corrupted.

Going back to what I wrote in my article two years ago, I want to reiterate how the pillars of Northwestern

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“Our existence here on earth is a gift from God. We are not here by accident – we are planned. God gave us lives to serve Him and we give Him back the glory and honor.”

Gone are the days when students know their rights and fight for them. But I wish that the Review staff shall remain the most assertive organization of students in NWU. The staff shall be equipped with the understanding of the Campus Journalism Act and other laws so that no one could dictate them what to do. The freedom can only be found by those who do not fear seeking for it. The publication needs knowledgeable, well-informed and assertive students so that it will remain as catalyst for change and improvement not only in the institution but also in the community.

The paper somehow teaches those in power how to listen to students' sentiments to maintain harmonious relationships in school. It also stirs the students' confidence.

My friend once told me that I should spend my time on something that I really want to do for I can never go back or turn back the time. She said that I have to choose the things that give me joy and fulfillment and not regrets. And she was right. Having both the Accountancy and the Review brings me fulfillment even if it gets me almost exhausted and haggard every day. I do not regret keeping it both.

I had to divide my time reviewing my lesson, and doing the newspaper work, and house chores thereby lessening my sleep time. With this arrangement, I found it hard to fulfill my first year college dream—to graduate with flying colors. But this didn't dishearten me.

I know I have my family on my side, guiding, supporting and comforting me. They made me feel I have been right in taking those little steps. I never know that I will be the person I am now. I just did not give up! Yes, never give up! I never lose heart and I felt that God rewarded me.

God gave me the thing I didn't ask for: winning in the journalism contests, the respect from my schoolmates, and the prestige the EIC position brings. I never knew I would become a leader of an organization that opened my eyes and taught me to use my freedom responsibly.

The Review taught me a lot of things from A-Z. I owe it my confidence in speaking with people in it. My experiences in the press will surely help me in the future. The publication opened for me avenues to handle information with care and not to take them as true if not verified, to resolve issues, to read more of the laws, to understand, and to listen. It also exposed me to hard work that made me feel ready to find a job. It also allowed me to rub elbows with professionals and students and also opened the doors to great ideas.

My fellow students, try to make the most out of your college life. If you fail to do so, you will surely regret. If you aim for honors, start working for it as early as your first year. Come to school early. Do not procrastinate. If you want to do something outside your academics, like joining the publication, the student council, choir, dance clubs, or contests, do it!, but make sure you give more of your time for your lessons. You are in school to complete your academic requirements. Let your achievements in the extra-curricular serve as your bonus. I believe that those who don't confine themselves alone in the borders of the classroom possess higher self-confidence and positive outlook than those who do.

I would like to thank my mentors, Sir Dan Ramos for his words of encouragement, for his compassion to his students and believing in us despite our flaws, for his unending passion in teaching, conducting make-up classes on holidays when needed without compensation. He shared us his time and gave us the chance to grow like him in the profession, who achieved more than what he expected. We are so blessed to have him as our mentor.

I also thank our trainor Ma'am J Pascual for her patience and passion to hone writers. I am so much blessed to have learned to write that brought me to places as far as Legazpi, Albay, and also for sharing the good and hearty stories that opened me to real situations in school and the community. Also with Ma'am Lanz Guieb, my four-year adviser in the Review for her patience and for giving the R staff wise pieces of advice whenever we consult her on publication matters, for being so generous to share her resources to us whenever we are in need and spending overnight with us during press works. I hope that the Review will continue to have these people who value the essence of campus journalism and its freedom.

I also like to thank my mentors who in anyway comforted me and guided me in my years in NWU. They, who always welcome me in their offices, to hear my stories and laugh with me, and make me feel that I never got wrong in choosing NWU as my school.

Now that I am leaving the university, I am very happy to say that I have learned so much. Every experience I have in the university was just an introduction to me to the real world. I am blessed enough to have NWU as my second home. Though it may have disappointed me at times, it taught me something that I could use to continue my journey.

Let there be light! May God Bless us all! ■

their unnoticed yet wonderful works. They stay at the back not because that is where they belong but that is where they intend to stay because they are the ones who support those who also have the potentials to shine like them.

I found that to be true from John Maxwell's writings. He says in one of his leadership books, "Great people have little use for fame or notoriety; they do not feel the need to project their self-worth to anyone. They are content when the moment calls for them to be little, ordinary, or common – as long as the goal is achieved."

If we take a look at the countless victories and milestones of the institution, usually the ones who have contributed much to its successes are mostly the ones who are given little or no recognition at all because great ones as Maxwell has said have little use for acclamation. Their greatest reward is the successful outcomes of their toils.

This holds true with students' victories in every competitions they participate in. If we try to look at their coaches, we will see that they are the great mentors who guided and boosted their students' potentials to become winners. You see, even the CNN 2009 Hero, Efren Peñaflorida Jr. has a great 'mentor' who is behind his achievements.

We should therefore also strive to become great men!

This is my last column in the Review so I shall seize this opportunity to share with you the impact that this publication has done into my life as a student writer.

Joining the Review is like entering into a fiery furnace. Those who dare pass through its flame to be honed would not emerge the same, so to speak. I am a living proof to that.

Before I joined the Review, I was just a typical student. I didn't care much about others. All I cared for is about me. But things changed when I joined. I learned to care for other students' plight especially when it comes to trampling of their rights.

I wouldn't forget the events that transpired during the regime of one of the previous SSC presidents. I noticed the flagrant violations of some students' rights. It was the Review staff that initiated a diplomatic protest regarding the SSC's amendment of their constitution and by-laws without the ratification by the members of the SSC which are the students. Another was the imposition of excessive sanctions to those



who were absent during university events. I wouldn't elaborate whether it is right to impose monetary sanction, goods, or community service, etc. because it all boils down to the leadership strategy of the leaders on how to motivate students to participate in university events. For as long as the leader's decision is for the good of the majority and it is done democratically, that is acceptable.

I am not dwelling on the flaws of previous SSC leaders to put them in bad light but to remind the next generations of SSC leaders not to repeat the same mistakes. It is also a reminder for the coming SSC leaders that criticism goes with the territory. The Review is not here to act as an 'opposition' of the SSC but rather it is here to serve as check and balance to protect the students' interest. It also aims to work hand in hand with the SSC to serve as one voice of the students in bringing their concerns to the administration.

I also learned in the Review to be skeptical. Before, I used to be the kind of person who easily believed in whatever he hears. But now, I have learned how to be a doubting Thomas. That doesn't mean I don't care a lot because I still listen to what other people say about anything but I will only believe it if it is backed by evidence. In connection with being skeptical, I also learned not to be judgmental especially to people who I do not know their backgrounds. We shouldn't immediately draw conclusions as to why he/she acts the way he/she does.

I admit that I did not get to read a lot. But now, as much as possible, I don't let a day pass without reading. It is in the Review where I was motivated to read a lot because writers must be well read and informed to present to the readers the issues and events in their proper context. My goal is to put up a big library of my own and put as many reading materials as much as I can and voraciously read them.

If I could sum up all the things that the Review has done in my life, that is, it has helped me fulfill God's purpose in my life. It was not an accident that I joined the Review. I know God planned it. He has given me the talent to write so that I will use it to serve my fellow students.

So if you also have the talent to write, do not squander the opportunity to use it to serve and touch other's lives. Remember the parable of the talents? Do not be like the slothful servant from whom God took back the talent because the servant did not use his talent. The Bible says, "To whom much is given, much is expected." (Luke 12:18)

Use your talent and make a difference. So would you join the Review and perhaps, one day you become the next editor? ■

University inculcated in the hearts of the students the value of education. The importance of education is the best legacy of the founders of this institution. It is the best armor we can have to face the challenges of the real world. It gives us larger opportunity and a bigger avenue to grow.

There is a disease that is very common to the students of NWU that only occurs in a certain day – the so called Friday sickness. There is no medicine invented to cure this illness. If it has, many Northwesternians would have been a valued customer in the local drugstores. What is worse is that this disease is contagious. If student A decides he won't go to school, student B, C and the rest will be influenced to do the same.

I tried getting the side of some students who are suffering from this disease. Most of them said that they are bored in class or they don't like their instructor. Why is this happening? Is it because some instructors are not exerting extra effort to encourage their students to attend their class regularly? Or maybe the instructor is also suffering from Friday sickness?

"Saan tu met lang sumrek ni Maam. Masadot manen. Ad-adu pay absent na ngem students na"

How can I forget those words that I heard from students chatting along the corridor?

How can we now give justice to the legacy of the NWU founders? They lived their lives to build an institution to provide education to the Ilocanos but it seems the fire of their flame is slowly dying.

Everytime I walk into the university canteen, I see sweet smile of the friendly staff. They would never fail to greet me "Ganda, ana't gatangem?" My classmates share the same experience. Even how exhausted we are in school, when we go to the canteen and buy some foods, we see the staff serving with their jokes and smile. It feels good that even though we don't know all of them by name, they are like friends greeting us with hi's and hello's even outside the university.

Customers are satisfied not just with the quality of product served before them but also the quality of service that the staff provides them. With that, I can say I'm happy and satisfied eating my meals in our canteen.

Thank you very much Review for accommodating me and including my byline in some of the issues. I will be forever grateful

to be a part of a transparent and unbiased school publication.

May God continue to strengthen the next set of editorial staff so that they will be able to serve NWU students with no fear in their hearts.

Review, please PRESS THE LAST BUTTON. Fiat Lux! ■

Quotable Qoutes

"The innocent can never be hurt of what is right. Doing what is right is always the moral thing to do and it is where real dignity begins. Truth bites only to those who are guilty, to those who could not keep silent but to shout foul and threaten people of their superiority and power because their precious pride was hurt."

Jessa Aballe
Review Editor (2005)

"Power is very deadly when not handled well. Power cheats, destroys, and kills! When power goes into the head of a person with a position, you can be sure that the person loses all his good values, that is if he/she has any."

Fernando Agudo
Review Editor (2007)

"Dealing with criticisms can be hard. But it's part of life and it's the price of power (in case of the Review, it's information power)."

Ruby Charlene Mariano
Managing Editor (2009)

"Change brings fear. Whenever we make choices, it follows consequences. But we cannot stop and decide on nothing, for even inaction is also a choice that is made. People fear change because of the uncertainty that lies ahead."

Stephanie Co
Features Editor (2009)

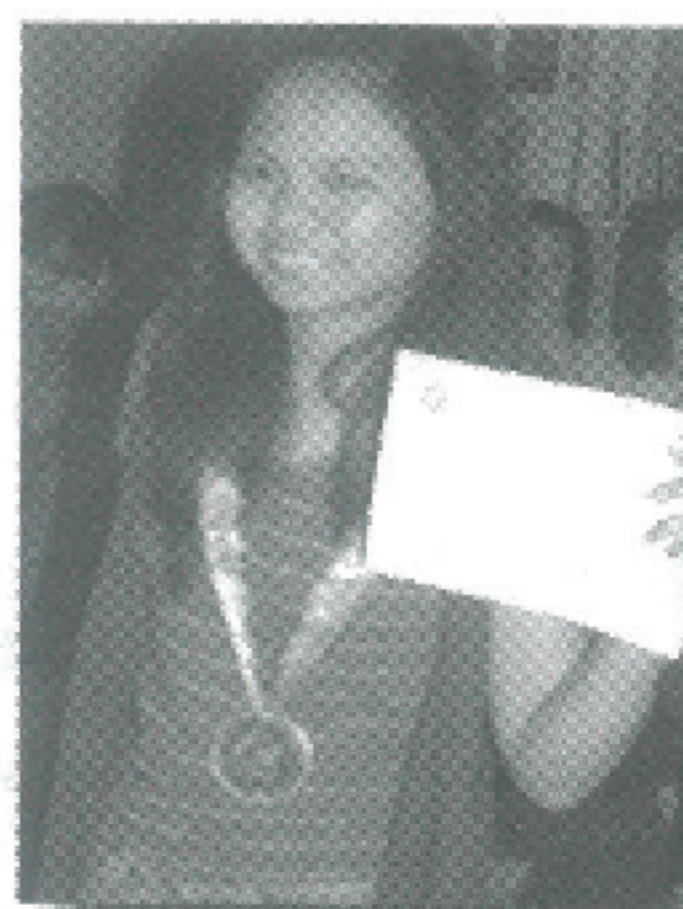
"Listen to what the people around you say. Take them. But do not immediately believe them. A journalist does not bite into what he hears and sees."

Charles Agustin
Review Editor (2010)

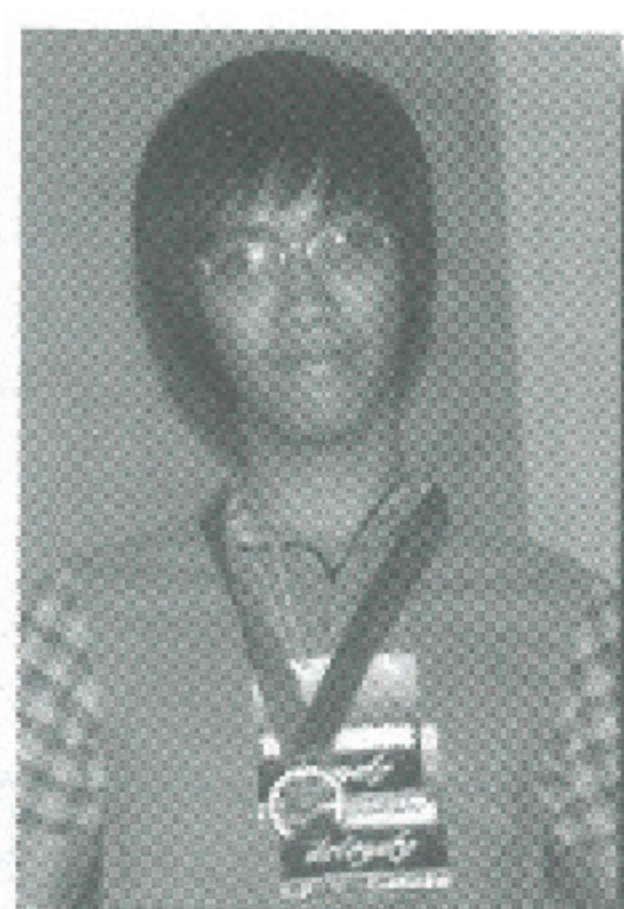
"The school paper as a 'guardian of truths' and 'voice of studentry' has no other mission except to inform the studentry of what they see and hear. Every article published in the school paper is of public interest. It enlightens, clears, and articulates the pros and cons and the positive and negative view of sources. This is the beauty of the freedom of the press."

Dr. Aida Cuanang
Former Review Adviser

THE WINNERS



Kathleen Gajultos



Allan Gregorio



Katrina Gajultos



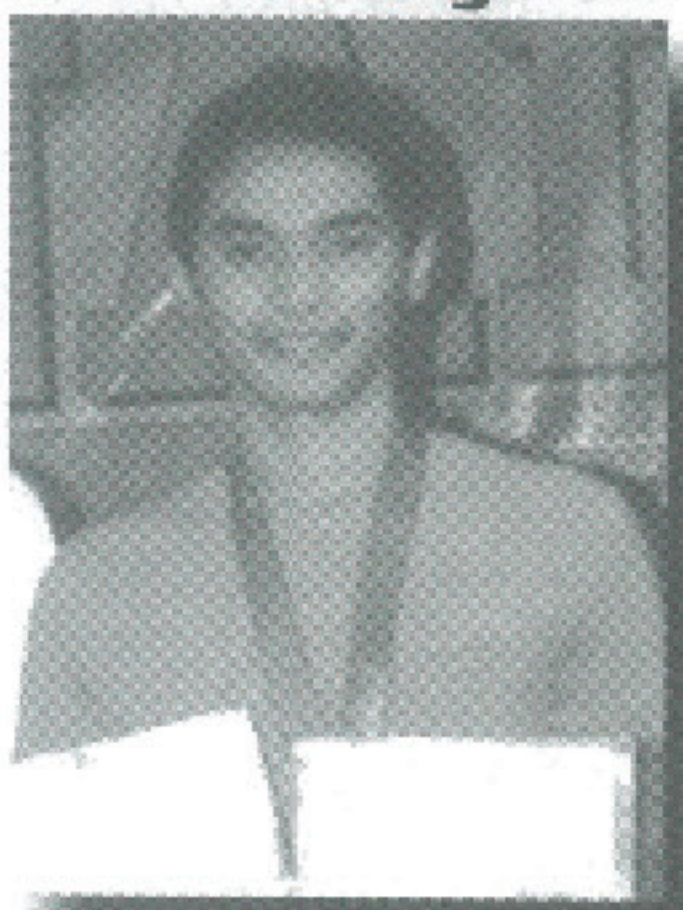
Jonard Evangelista



Criselle Sebastian



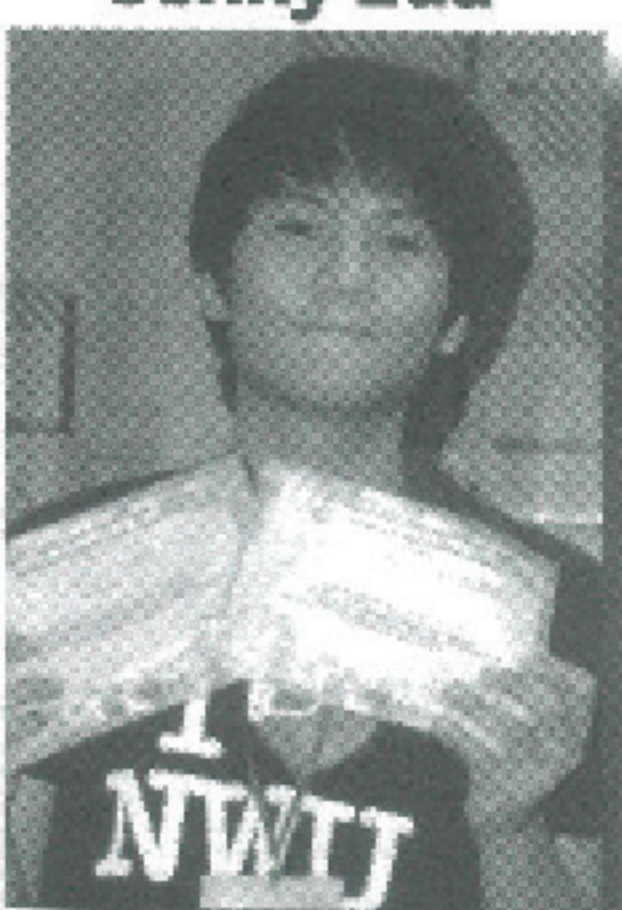
Jenny Edu



Jeric Fernandez



James Duquez



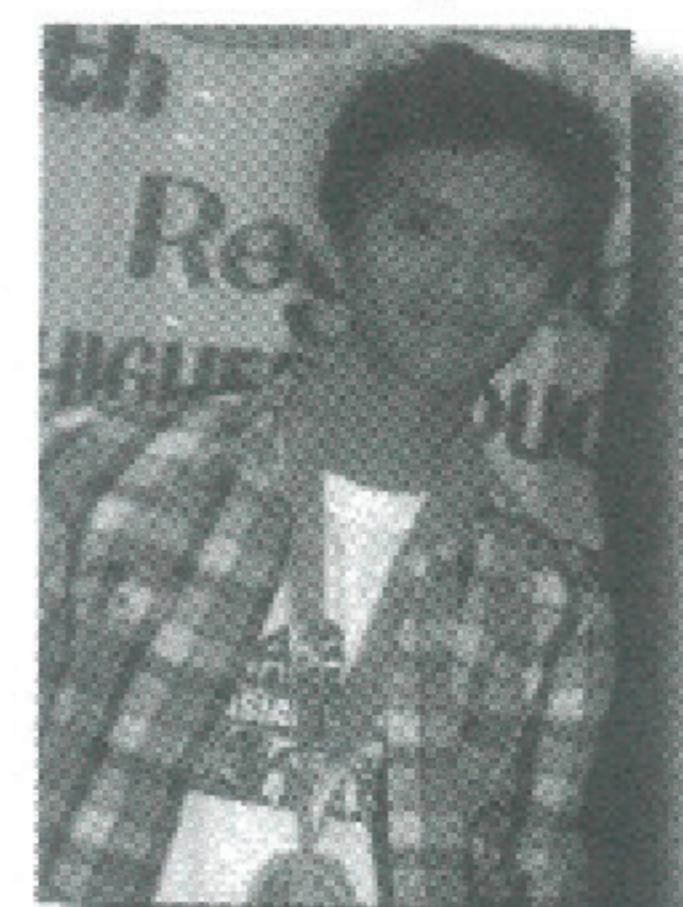
Renz Pascual



Coleen Saliganan



Fatima Dumenden



Emerson Bolibol

AWARD

11th Regional Higher Education Press Conference
Regency Hotel, Calasiao, Pangasinan
November 23-25, 2011

Kathleen Gajultos

1st place News Writing (Filipino)
3rd place Sports Writing (Filipino)
-3rd Individual Highest Pointer-

Allan Gregorio

1st place DevCom Writing (Filipino)

Jonard Evangelista

2nd place Opinion Writing (English)
3rd place News Writing (English)
-9th Individual Highest Pointer-

Jeric Austin Fernandez

2nd place Literary Graphics (Filipino)
3rd place Editorial Cartooning (Filipino)
6th place Comic Strip Drawing (Filipino)
-4th Individual Highest pointer-

Emerson Bolibol

2nd place Sports Writing (Filipino)
9th place Poetry Writing (Filipino)

Katrina Gajultos

5th place Opinion Writing (Filipino)

James Richard Duquez

3rd place Literary Graphics Illustration (English)
7th place Comic Strip Drawing (English)

Fatima Dumenden

7th place Photojournalism (Filipino)

Coleen Jill Saliganan

9th place Photojournalism (English)

Group Awards

-Tabloid Category-

1st place Opinion Page
1st place Editorial Page
2nd place Sports Page

Rank 7 Overall Performing School (Region 1)

10th Luzonwide Higher Education Press Conference
Crown Royale Hotel, Balanga, Bataan
February 8-10, 2012

Kathleen Gajultos

4th place News Writing (Filipino)

James Richard Duquez

4th place Literary Graphics (English)

Allan Gregorio

8th place Dev Com Writing (Filipino)

Group Award

-Tabloid Category-

2nd place Best in News Page

S' GALLERY

12th Regional Higher Education Press Conference
Oasis Hotel, San Fernando, La Union
December 3-5, 2012

Kathleen Gajultos

2nd place News Writing (Filipino)

Jenny Edu

3rd place Feature Writing (Filipino)
4th place Dev Comm Writing (English)
7th place Poetry Writing (Filipino)
-4th Individual Highest pointer-

James Richard Duquez

4th place Editorial Cartooning (English)
4th place Comic Strip Drawing (English)
8th place Literary Graphics Illustration (English)
-6th Individual Highest Pointer-

Allan Gregorio

4th place Dev Comm Writing (Filipino)

Jeric Austin Fernandez

5th place Literary Graphics Illustration (Filipino)
6th place Editorial Cartooning (Filipino)
8th place Comic Strip Drawing (Filipino)

Renz Ceasar Pascual

7th place Sports Writing (English)

Jonard Evangelista

7th place News Writing (English)
10th place Editorial Writing (English)

Criselle Sebastian

9th place Copy Reading (English)

Group Awards

-Tabloid Category-

3rd place Feature-Literary page
3rd place DevCom page
4th place News page
4th Sports page

Rank 9 Overall Performing School (Region 1)

11th Luzonwide Higher Education Press Conference
The Oriental Hotel, Legazpi, Albay
February 10-12, 2013

Jenny Edu

6th place Feature Writing (Filipino)

Allan Gregorio

7th place Dev Comm Writing (Filipino)

GROUP AWARDS



11th RHEPC - Regency Hotel, Calasiao, Pangasinan



10th LHEPC - Crown Royale Hotel, Balanga, Bataan



12th RHEPC - Oasis Hotel, City of San Fernando, La Union

Follow Your Dream

*Follow your dream. . .take one step at a
time*

*and don't settle for less, just continue
to climb.*

*Follow your dream. . .if you stumble,
don't stop*

*and lose sight of your goal, press on to
the top.*

*For only on top can we see the whole
view,*

*can we see what we've done and what
we can do,*

*can we then have the vision to seek
something new*

Press on, and follow your dream.

Amanda Bradley

REVIEW

OFFICIAL STUDENT PUBLICATION
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
Don Mariano Marcos Avenue, Laoag City