

VEGAS & STYLE JOURNAL

DOLLYWOOD

by DOLLY ANNE CARVAJAL
Inquirer.net

Ai Ai awaits movie with Erap

MANILA—Ai Ai De Las Alas is having the time of her life shooting *B.F.F. (Best Friends Forever)* with Sharon Cuneta.



Ai Ai De Las Alas
Inquirer.net photo

kaya ko ibigay sa kanya kahit heaven!"

She's keeping her fingers crossed that her movie with Erap will push through. "Una kong itatanong kay Papa Erap ay kung willing siya magkaanak sa akin (laughs)," quips Ai. "Gusto ko din malaman what is love talaga for him at sino top 3 sexiest women sa kaniya. At di ako papayag na wala kaming kissing scene. Sa daming nakahalikan niya, sisiguraduhin kong yung kiss ko ang di niya malilimutan!"

Kiss-to-kiss basis? Only the Comedy Queen can get away with such "naughtiness" and not be loved any less.

Legal puzzle

"Super funny 'yung scene namin kung saan nahilo si Sha sa gym at tinulungan ko siya," says Ai. "Pero nadaganan niya ako nang bonggang bongga!"

She portrays Sha's dance instructor who becomes the mistress of Sha's husband in the movie, John Estrada.

"Kung wala lang Priscilla si Papa John, mag fall talaga ako for him with matching tumbling pa," she chuckles. "Ms Earth lang ang GF niya. Ako

Could it be true that lawyer Bebong Muñoz (Jolina Magdangal's ex) is now dating a GMA 7 bigwig? Or is she just consulting him about legal matters — and not matters of the heart?

Take 3 for Snooky

Snooky Serna introduced me to her current beau, a businessman who's older than herself. He seems to have such a soothing effect on her. "After my marriage to Ricardo Cepeda crumbled, I tried my luck again by marrying a younger guy. I thought the excitement won't wear off," Snooky revealed. "Pag bata ang partner mo feeling mo rock and roll parati."

"Now I realize I probably was looking for a playmate and not a partner since I didn't get to enjoy my childhood much because I started working at 3. But my partner now helps me become a better woman."

Snooky is one child-woman who's a veteran of love's battles.

Young diva

Shane Ortiz, an international young diva based in Chicago, is all set to launch her self-titled album produced by Aeon Records and distributed by PolyEast Records.

It contains eight tracks including revivals of *How Am I Supposed To Live Without You* (Michael Bolton) and *Mr. Disco* (Manilyn Reyes), which was given a new flavored tune by the Brown Republic and is fast becoming a fave in the airwaves. Shane is on the way to fame! ■



Snooky Serna
Inquirer.net

[Showbitz!]

Martin Nievera's new special gig



Karylle, Kyla, Geneva Cruz, Jasmine Villegas and Regine Velasquez. ■

MARTIN Nievera is the Chosen One—chosen by Manny Pacquiao to sing the Philippine National Anthem in his fight against Britain's Ricky Hatton on May 2 in Las Vegas, Nevada that is.

This was announced by the Pacman himself in an interview with GMA News. The Concert King now shares the distinction of singing the Philippine National Anthem during Pacquiao's fights are Valerie Concepcion and Regine Velasquez. ■

Valerie Concepcion takes on a dramatic role

SHE may not be included in the cast of the comedy show *Banana Split* anymore, but Valerie Concepcion is happy with the latest development in her career. Valerie is included in the cast of the new afternoon series at ABS-CBN called *Bud Brothers* which is based from the Precious Hearts Romances.

In *Bud Brothers*, Valerie will play a Psychology student and will be paired with Will Devaughn. In an interview with Philippine Entertainment Portal, Valerie says she considers her hosting job in *Wowwee* a blessing but she is looking forward to her new challenge.

"Medyo challenging siya kasi, ang tagal ko nang hindi nagda-drama. So, hindi ko na alam kung mabilis pa ba kong umiyak or ano...pero at the same time, I'm excited. Kasi, even one week lang siya, at least, drama ulit, di ba? Na-miss ko 'to, eh...Na-miss ko ang drama," she says. ■



Valerie Concepcion
ABS-CBN photo

Fighting domestic violence... 'One bracelet at a time'

by RINA JIMENEZ-DAVID
Inquirer.net

MANILA—What do Hollywood stars Reese Witherspoon, Selma Hayek and Lauren Conrad, supermodels Adriana Sklenarikova Karembeu and Daniela Pestova, and local actress Ruffa Gutierrez, have in common?

The answer, of course, is Avon. They are all—in a global or national capacity—ambassadors for Avon, particularly the company's *Speak Out Against Domestic Violence* program launched globally in 2004, and in the Philippines just last month.

Witherspoon is the current Avon global ambassador, speaking eloquently and staying "on message" during the past week, when, as part of Avon's celebration of International Women's Day on March 8, she took part in a press conference and as a keynote speaker in the "Global Forum for Women and Justice" held in Washington, D.C.

Clad in a dark blue dress with a single accessory—the silver "Women's Empowerment Necklace" that Avon is selling, with the proceeds earmarked to support efforts worldwide to bring an end to all forms of violence against women—Witherspoon spoke of her involvement in the campaign and of her happiness at how pieces of jewelry, the necklace and an "empowerment bracelet" that Avon launched last year, had managed to raise millions for NGOs around the world while raising the public profile of the issue.

Advocacy

Hayek, on the other hand, was Avon's first brand ambassador to raise the possibility of the company's adding the cause of domestic violence to its longstanding advocacy and support for breast cancer efforts.

Conrad, on the other hand, is the "ambassador" for *m.powerment*, a line of clothing, jewelry and beauty products aimed at a younger demographic than that typically reached by Avon. Dubbed the "younger Carrie Bradshaw" (Sarah Jessica Parker's fashionista character in *Sex and the City*), Conrad focuses on dating abuse and violence for the *m.powerment* market by designing the *Have a Heart* necklace and promoting the *m.powerment* peach lip color, all to raise funds for the cause.

The two supermodels Adriana and Daniela, who hail from Slovakia and the Czech Republic respectively, have lent their easily recognizable faces and their mystique to help promote awareness of the "other" forms of domestic violence, encapsulated in the slogan "Not only bruises make you a victim."

As one of the hosts of the forum that marked the campaign's local launch, Gutierrez lent a note of credibility as she, together with one survivor of domestic violence who also happens to be an Avon sales representative, spoke of what abuse means on the personal, private level.

Woman-to-woman

Witherspoon spoke glowingly of the "woman-to-woman" network that lies at the heart of Avon's business, with nearly six million women worldwide, its sales representatives, who are uniquely suited to promoting awareness of and access to services that abused women

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AVON chairman and CEO Andrea Jung and Avon global ambassador Reese Witherspoon
Inquirer.net photo

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