

Cesar Montano, Mass Com grad ...

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Cameo for Gabby?
 Gabby Concepcion is clueless about rumors that he will make a guest appearance in Sharon Cuneta and Ai Ai de las Alas' movie *B.F.F. (Best Friends Forever)*.
 It would be anticlimactic if Gabs would have a cameo role in Sha's film. Why preempt their much-awaited onscreen reunion?
 Timing is of the essence but the question remains: Will Gabs and Sha find and make time to give in to their diehards fans' clamor? B.F.F. (Better for the Fans' Fantasies)?
Sharon's leading man
 Speaking of B.F.F. Sharon's leading man John Estrada shared the wackiest moment he had during their shoot.

"In one scene, Sha was in a bus and our maid told her I'm the one with a girl in the car beside the bus," John said. "So Sha opened the door of the bus to see who the girl is. I thought she would fall because the bus was moving while she was standing by the door. I almost lost my concentration (laughs)."
 He is dead-set on marrying his B.F.F. (Bride For Forever) Priscilla Meirelles. "No date yet but it's already in my agenda."
 Here comes the groom whose career is in full bloom!



Gabby Concepcion

Big hits, top-raters
 Director Carlo J. Caparas ought to be named National Artist. The *Komiks King's* obra maestras have all been top-raters and big hits in their TV and movie versions.

Some of his creations are *Bakekang*, *Pieta* and "*Kamandag*." Another Caparas jewel, *Totoy Bato*, now reigns supreme in the ratings. Direk CC must add another C to his name, for consistent.

After a Presidential Merit Award and postal stamps bearing his image, Caparas truly deserves to be the *Pambansang Genio at Idolo!*

Wacky third season
 Catch the wacky third season of *Banana Split* every Saturday on ABS-CBN (after XXX). Sexy cast members Angelica Panganiban, Cristine Reyes and RR Enriquez welcome their new male co-stars Zanjoie Marudo, Jayson Gainza and John Pratts. Pooh and Pokwang are also new additions to intensify the show's comic madness.

New segments are *Makakaya Mo Kaya*, *N.N.N.N.* (*Entertainment News Na Naman*), *Laugh Ten*, and *Cine Banana*.

Not a (banana) split second goes by without infectious laughter.

[Showbitz!]

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Kim Chiu

of slowing down at all but does plan to continue her collegiate studies.
 "Hindi po, hindi ako napapagod, hindi po ako nagreklamo. Basta inaalagaan ko lang po ang health ko," she says. "Gusto ko pong mag-apon nang mag-apon dahil alam naman natin ang buhay ng mga artista, hindi mo alam kung hanggang kailan ka magtatagal sa showbiz. Kung dumating po 'yong time na wala na akong trabaho, may naipon na ako.'" ■

Echo tries love songs

LAST week, Jericho announced that his group, *Jeans*, has disbanded. He added that, instead of the "funky and off-beat" tunes he recorded with *Jeans* in the albums *Loose Fit* (2005) and *Jericho* (2008), he now wants to sing love songs "to give listeners what they want to hear."
 Formerly signed with EMI Music, Jericho recently inked a one-album deal with Star Records.



Jericho Rosales

More popularly known as an actor, Jericho denied that what he did was "selling out."
 He told *Inquirer Entertainment* shortly after signing the deal with Star Records at the ABS-CBN compound: "What I want is to find balance. Right now, I simply want to go for music that's more embraceable."
 He elaborated: "My first albums were a little indie-ish. Now that I know what they want, I wish to please my listeners. Then maybe afterwards, I can re-introduce to them my kind of music. That's give-and-take. *Kung saan ako mas maraming maaabot na tao, doon ako.*"

Jericho insisted that the next album will still have his personal touch. "It will feature a couple of original compositions. I'll make sure everyone will appreciate it," he said. For the 10-track CD that will be released in June, Jericho hopes to collaborate with veteran artists like Gary Valenciano, Sugarfree and Parokya ni Edgar. ■

The return of 'Ang Panday'

THE film franchise which won the late action star Fernando Poe, Jr. legions and legions of fans will have a modern take with Bong Revilla, Jr. taking on the heroic role. The film will be part of the upcoming Metro Manila Film Festival. Acclaimed dramatic actress Iza Calzado was handpicked by the action star to be one of the leading ladies together with *Zorro* star Rhian Ramos, and she expressed her excitement over her new role with Philippine Entertainment Portal.

"It's a blessing for me *na makasama sa malaking pelikulang ito*. It's my first time to work with Senator Bong. *Ikinukuwento pa lang nila dito sa story conference ang story, gusto ko nang mag-shooting agad. Nae-excite ka just hearing them talk about it,*" she says. ■

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