

SHOWBIZ & STYLE

JOURNAL

DOLLYWOOD

by DOLLY ANN CARVAJAL
Inquirer.net

Cesar Montano, Mass Com grad

CESAR MONTANO was in a euphoric state when he called me up. “Amiga, I just graduated from the Lyceum of the Philippines University,” he beamed. “I now have a Bachelor of Arts degree, major in Mass Communication. My bro Jing, Sunshine and my son Angelo were present during the rites. *Nakaka-touch’yung palakpakan ng* fellow graduates and the rest in the audience. It was one moment in my life when I felt really complete.”



Cesar Montano

Buboy had finished three years of college before show biz beckoned. Since he just had a few more units left, he squeezed in some time to complete his requirements.

“Indescribable *ang* feeling when I got my diploma,” gushed Buboy. “My hands were so cold. Excitement was enormous! *Ibang klaseng* high than when I receive an acting award. Although *parehong* fulfilling *ang* may award at diploma, *kakaiba ang joy na may natapos na akong kurso* which will come in handy in my *Singing Bee* hosting.”

I teased him. “Now that you’re officially a broadcaster, will you venture into newscasting? Perhaps pinch-hit for Ted Failon now

that he’s in mourning?”

Buboy shot back, “*Tama nang nahe-headline ako. Di ko ma-imagine maging* news anchor.”

Is Buboy’s college degree in preparation for the 2010 elections? Is he running for governor of Bohol? “My answer is definitely maybe (laughs).”

Either way, whatever Buboy gets into, he’s never half-hearted about it.

The graduate is now armed with more lessons not just in facing the camera but also in facing the music.

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 Gabby 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 Gabby 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!

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 *Pam-*

bansang 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 Zanjoe 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. ■



Gabby Concepcion

[Showbitz!]

Keempee de Leon reinvents himself as a photographer

KEEEMPEE de Leon is best known for tickling our funny bones, but a lot do not know that the comedian has developed a new hobby: photography. He shares that the late Master Rapper Francis M., Richard Gomez and Michael V. inspired him to this new passion.

He is so engrossed with photography that he is planning to mount his own exhibit where all proceeds will be donated to charity. He has at least 1,000 unique photos which he could choose from should the plan push through.

Other personalities from the GMA-7 channel roster are also involved in the same hobby such as Mark Herras, Raymond Gutierrez and Chynna Ortaleza, and Keempee intend to have their works included in the exhibit as well.

“I guess it’s a good idea, *‘di ba?’*” he tells gmanews.tv. GMA “*Para mapakita din’yung ibang talents ng artists ng GMA – hindi lang acting, hindi lang singing [or] dancing.*” ■



Keempee de Leon

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.

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. ■



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