Catanduanes reaps 5 gold in Special Events



DAVE S. TOLENTINO

Those who are differently-abled turned out to be the most abled among the group when it comes to racking up

Local athletes with special educational needs collected yesterday a total of five gold medals on top of 11 more as they upheld the winning tradition and sustained Catanduanes' reputation as one of the powerhouses in Palarong Bicol Special Events.

Her low vision did not stop Catanduanes National High School seventh grader Lenneth May T. Tomagan in showcasing a stellar performance, bagging gold medals in 100-m dash and standing long jump in addition to a bronze in shot put under Visually (VI) Impaired Athlet-

Erika Joy I Robles, on the other hand, placed first and third in running long jump and 100-m dash respectively under the Intellectually Different (ID) athletics (16-above category).

Male bets also chipped in major contributions as Loyd T. Rodriguez reigned supreme in shot put and got

two silver in 100-m dash and standing long jump.

Jayson R. Villaron strived hard to pocket 2 bronze in 100m dash and standing long jump after placing second in shot put next to Rodriguez. Both competed in Partially Blind Category.

Under Totally Blind Čategory, Leo B. delos Reyes showed sheer dominance in scoring a gold medal in shot put and harvesting silver in standing long jump and 100-m dash.

Meanwhile, both John Rey V. Capistrano and Micah C. Fajardo put up a good fight against other Bocce contingents as they garnered bronze medals

in their respective divisions.

"Despite all the hardships we encountered, we are very happy for our kids to savor such huge victories. We did really motivate them to work hard and win," said Special Event Coach Dianne Fritz Manuel in vernacular during an interview.



IT'S A FAITHFUL DAY!

Lady wood pusher Olalo bags 1st gold for Cat'nes



FRANCIS JOHN B. TEMPLONUEVO

FAITH LOVE OLALO, the 13-year old wood pusher from Calatagan High School, books Catanduanes the first ticket in the Palarong Pambansa after winning the province's first gold medal at Chess Secondary Girl (Blitz Category Individual), Monday, February 25, 2018 at Mobo Municipal Hall, Mobo, Masbate.

Olalo managed to outlast her four other opponents, including Janeth Mercader, a perennial Palarong Pambansa in the fourth round of the

Bagwis strikers gain momentum in sepak takraw



() JEFFERSON S. ARCILLA

CATANDUANES ELEMENTARY sepak takraw team opened the Palarong Bicol campaign with a win over Naga City during the elimination round at Masbate Sports Athletic Complex yesterday.

Bagwis young strikers relied on their aggressive offensive attacks to put Naga City out of the contention in two straight sets.



Bagwis dribblers take down **Camarines Sur**



BASKETBALL BOYS-SEC

NIKKO TEMPLONUEVO

Four players are in double digits as Catanduanes secondary dribblers beat Camarines Sur in their basketball opening game with a con-vincing 84-72 vixtory at Masbate Athletic Complex, Masbate City.

Kiddie tanker nets bronze in 50-m breast stroke



AFTER REAPING five medals including the sole gold in last year's Palaro, the swimming team has once again delivered another one, this time a bronze medal dived by kiddie tanker Shiena de Luna in the 50 meter breaststroke finale at the Masbate Comprehensive National High School swimming pool, Mabate City.

De Luna, a grade 6 pupil from Juan M. Alberto Memorial School is only a split second over the swimmer from Camarines Sur and Naga City who became the gold and silver medal awardees

"It's a very close fight that all three of them were only separated by the slightest split seconds, unlike in the previous years where you can already tell who's going to win," coach Aida A. Bodota said.

"Shiena will still swim for the

Shiena will still swim for the 100m breaststroke tomorrow and we are hoping to have another win. It's going to be difficult as always, but her winning in the 50m will surely give her extra confidence, Bodota added.

Romero to coaches: Defeat is not failure



Division Schools Sports Coordinator Mary Jane Romero address the crowd of coaches and trainers from the province to continue to work on improving their team's performance whether they came from a defeat or a

"To me defeat is not a failure.

Rather it is a validation of the opportunity that awaits us," Romero said.

She then urged the team to talk with the Event Managers to further strategize approaches on their coming

Romero then highlighted the delegations greatest achievement early on the Palaro which is the gold medal finish of Faith Olalo in Chess Second-ary Girl (Blitz Category Individual).









LARONG BI



Bagwis strikers gain momentum

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"Ang napansin ko sa first set halos pasok gabos na power serves ta buda naka depensang maayos, said coach Ferdinand Tusi.

Team Catanduanes immediately showed its dominance in the first set with powerful serves, ending the first set with a commanding six-point lead, 21-15.

Naga City tried to bounce back, but Catanduanes showed poise in the crucial moment of the match with a one-point victory in the second set, 25-24.

The win gave Catanduanes a

ticket to face the team that eliminated them from last year's Palaro.

"Gusto talaga naming makal-

aban ang Masbate City kasi sila yung nag-eliminate sa amin. Gusto naming may patunayan,' Tusi added.

Despite the win over a tough opponent like Naga City, Tusi said that his team needs adjustments if they want to make it far in the competition.

"Kaipuhan lang talagang madaog ang nerbyos buda gilumdumon ang mga skills," he added.

'Champion talaga ang target. Gagawin naming ang lahat para maka gold,"Tusi furthered.

Meanwhile, secondary sepak takraw team also scored an early win after beating Naga City in regu team event.

Coach Salvador L. Flores said that offensive awareness was the key of his team to beat the plucky Naga City.

"Spiking talaga kita may laban. Almost perfect pati ang serve sinda," he added.

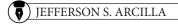
HEAD START.

Elementary Sepak Takraw coach Ferdinand Tusi is all eyes on the the game as the team dishes out a counter head spike against Naga City during the first few minutes of the match.

[Arcilla]

Palarong Bicol first-timer gives Catanduanes first medal in athletics

There was no sign of intimidation for the first time Palarong Bicol athlete as she



gave Catanduanes its first medal in athletics this year.

Bronze medalist Iarah Blanca V. Magtangob scored 8.61 distance height as her best throw in shot put secondary level behind Albay (8.85) and Camarines Sur (9.25).

The 14-year old power thrower from Panganiban said that her motivation was to secure a medal and end the twoyear medal drought of Catanduanes in athletics.

'Gusto ko talagang maka gold para sa family ko," the Grade 8 athlete from Panganiban National High School – CAIC Compound shared.

Danica Capistrano, Catanduanes athletics coach in secondary level, said that despite competing in the bigger stage for the first time, her player showed determination from the start of the training.

"Dati puro throw lang ang practice niya tapos pagdating sa municipal level, lahat ng drills ginawa niya para mag-improve ang endurance niya," she said.

Magtangob will try to carry the momentum in athletics as she competes in discuss throw on day three of the Palaro.



Coach Danica Capistrano (left) and a BRAA Official flank bronze medalist Iarah Blanca V. Magtangob (center) after the game.

Lady wood pusher Olalo bags 1st gold for Cat'nes

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This is her first gold following her silver medal finish in Palaro 2018.

"Dai ako ga expect na maka-gold ako kasi

kahit may training pa, di ako masyado sanay talaga sa Blitz kasi standard talaga ang game ko," Olalo said. Olalo, a Palaro veteran who started her chess career in her 1st grade, has advanced in the Palarong Pambansa as a grade 4 and 6 pupil.

'Nagstart talaga po ako 5 years old. Si Papa ko ang nagtukdo mag chess. Puon nun nag bale na ako sa mga tournament," Olalo added.

Faith is a daughter of Danilo O. Olalo, a tricycle driver who as early as five years old, has been trained by her father in the hopes that her daughter would find a lustrous career in the sports.

Like a premonition, Jonel Aznar, Faith's coach said that when Faith defeated Mercader of Legazpi on round number, he saw the huge opportunity that the Virac-based woodpusher would win gold.

Olalo, will continue her chess stint to the regular chess games on February 26, 2018.

On a coaches and trainers meeting, Divisions Schools Sports Coordinator Mary Jane Romero expressed her joy with the province's first gold and she hopes that other athletes would be inspired with the effort of Olalo. She also urged the coaches to continue

Bagwis dribblers take down Camarines Sur

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San Miguel native and front court duo, Alvin Ticson, Raymond Christopher Javier scored a combined 38 points to lead the squad in the scoring sheet.

Ira George Arcilla and Jomar Brito chipped in 21 and 17 points respectively.

Meanwhile Mark Eric Cabrera took over the rim as it registered seven (7) big blocks five of which came from the first half.

Early in the first half, Bagwis ballers put their opponent on defensive lockdown after executing full-court pressure catapulting to a 16 point margin, 44-28.

Building on their defense, Catanduanes continued an defense-to-offense

rampage forcing turnovers and converting them into points. Cam Sur managed to trim down the lead to seven, but yet again fail

to sustain their offense in the face of the Bagwis' defense pioneered by the Ticson-Javier backcourt presence.

The game ended at 84-72, with Catanduanes facing Legazpi City on February 26, 2019.

Cat'nes lady netters to avoid early Palarong Bicol exit

CATANDUANES VOLLEYBELLES in secondary level will keep their Palarong Bicol stint alive as they face familiar foe in a survival match

After blowing the first set lead

in their first match in the eliminations yesterday, secondary volleyball girls will face Albay in a must win game

Coach Nieves P. Tria of volleyball girls secondary level said that her team remains composed despite the

heartbreaking loss from the hands of Tabaco City.

"Kayang-kaya ang Albay kasi alam ta na ang kawat ninda,"Tria shared while resting after the team's practice at Masbate Colleges.



Tria also added that the team must double its efforts to avoid another painful loss.

"Doblehan lang ninda sa kusog. Dapat mag-iwas sa mga serving error," she said.