

Volume 5, Issue 4 (April 2004)

# Chinoy

The Official Publication of the Ateneo Celadon



## Going Beyond Ateneo:

Exploring the world  
outside campus



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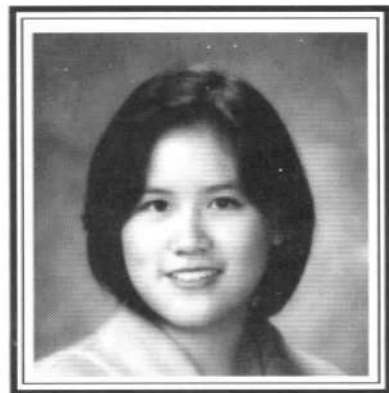
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The Chinese are probably the single most populous race in the world. If we consider those living in different countries all over, the Chinese may also be the most scattered and distributed ethnic group. In this issue of **Chinoy**, we get a more global view as we see how Chinese people hold up and even flourish in countries beyond China and Taiwan. We also get to compare the lifestyles and treatments the Chinese have from these different places and read about the various Chinatowns of the world, as well as the trip Celadon members made to visit our very own, here in Manila.

This issue also covers more local concerns, particularly for us students. Read about the thoughts of Chinoy graduates regarding the "world after college", the experiences of a participant of the Junior-Term-Abroad program, and the messages from some of Celadon's graduating officers.

To our readers, we hope this issue entertains as well as it informs. As we learn a bit more about our own culture and that of others, we hopefully get to appreciate better the uniqueness that is in being Chinoy.

To everyone graduating this March, we all wish you the very best! It truly was a great experience working with and learning from you. God bless!

- **Natalie Jane Chai**  
incoming Editor-in-chief

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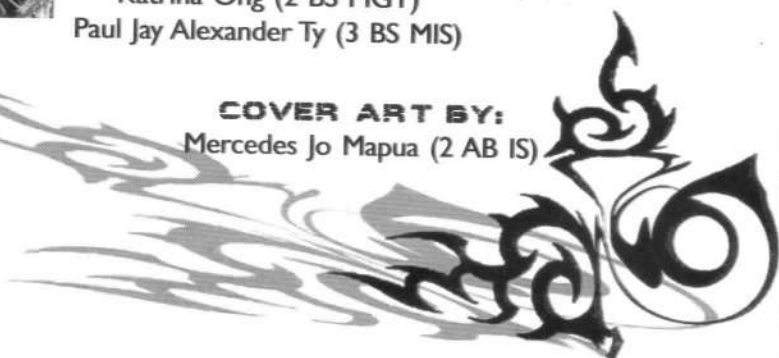
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suggestions email us at  
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Article contributions are welcome.





# The Post-graduate Fork in the Road

by Jason Tan

In general, there seems to be a tangible hint of nonchalance whenever you encounter a just-graduating Chinoy facing the job market almost regardless of the Philippine economy's current rate of sinking. There always seems to be this feeling that there will always be something to fall back on. Oftentimes, that is – to put it bluntly – because there often is something to fall back on. However, there is a significant number of Chinoys that will tell you that beneath the security blanket lies a complex – sometimes alienating – chain of expectations and pre-arranged routes that often lead to the world of business and entrepreneurship.

In order to get a clearer grasp of the Chinoy perspective on post-graduate careers, it is necessary to first take a quick flashback into the disturbing ancient days of pre-Confucianism during 593 B.C. to see how filial duty emerged as the key building block of

Chinese society. According to Adam Bellow, author of *In Praise of Nepotism: A Natural History*, world famous Chinese philosopher, teacher, and all-out life affirmer, Confucius, was born in a morally screwed up era of China wherein society had become so depraved that the citizens were reduced to eating other children that they traded their own children for (they couldn't stand snacking on their own child) out of hunger. This utter collapse and disfiguration of the Chinese family greatly influenced Confucius to focus on how to restore order and balance in not just the basic family household unit, but also in the entire society that is made up by the sum total of all families combined. Bellow writes that, "Confucius recognized that the virtues of filial piety and fraternal affection learned in the family were of great importance to good government. Correct behavior beyond the family was merely an extension of filial virtues to society at large."

Now, back to this country and to the present day. In the average Chinoy nuclear family core, the filial duty of the offspring to the parents is to pay them back in the future by



granting the retiring parents the same degree of security and financial stability that the parents have given the children. From a Confucian point of view, one could argue that this filial agreement of security and financial stability should be extended to the general Philippine society as a whole in order to redirect its course from becoming synonymous with insecurity and financial instability. An unspoken contract of perpetual compensation that ensures the continuity of a decent lifestyle for every Chinoy throughout the vulnerabilities of birth, sickness, and aging is very much built in within the collective Chinoy family.

This is the reason why there have been countless bouts of heated household arguments and threats of inheritance withdrawal whenever a young Chinoy expresses his or her desire to pursue a career that is notorious for its uncertainty of success or for its lack of monetary compensation. That is why the Chinoy painter, musician, actor, or priest has been such a rare and often startling species. Careers with insecure paybacks seem to be generally looked down upon by Chinoy parents, not because traditional Chinoy are anti-art or anti-spirituality, but because the choice to take up such careers is simply seen as an ungrateful breaking of the silent contract that all Chinoy are expected to understand. The persistence of this cultural pull for intergenerational cooperation and support is – at the very least evident – in the microcosm that is Ateneo Celadon wherein around 51% of its total membership population looks at business or entrepreneurship – whether it be in the established family business or the independently experimental business career –

as the clear path that they are going to take after graduation.

Now, back to the reason why there seems to be less pressure for Chinoy come job-hunting season. Here, we refer to a well-

documented component of Chinoy culture, that being what appears to be a nature or nurture-induced drive towards entrepreneurship.

It is no well-kept secret that as a result of this internal hard drive for business creation, Chinoy children often have parents with their own businesses. The post-graduate Chinoy job-hunters thus often find themselves unwittingly disjointed with the low-level employee lifestyle, not necessarily because the offered



Art by Tristan Rosario

## Feature Story

wage rivals the monthly allowance or because of poor parenting or outright elitism, but more because they have been bred at birth – largely in part because of the culture of perpetual security – to either be the torch bearers of the family business, or to be at some point in life, like their parents by being their own bosses in their very own businesses.

The typical Chinoy has, at least in some point in his or her life, taken a tour of the family business and has been acquainted with how

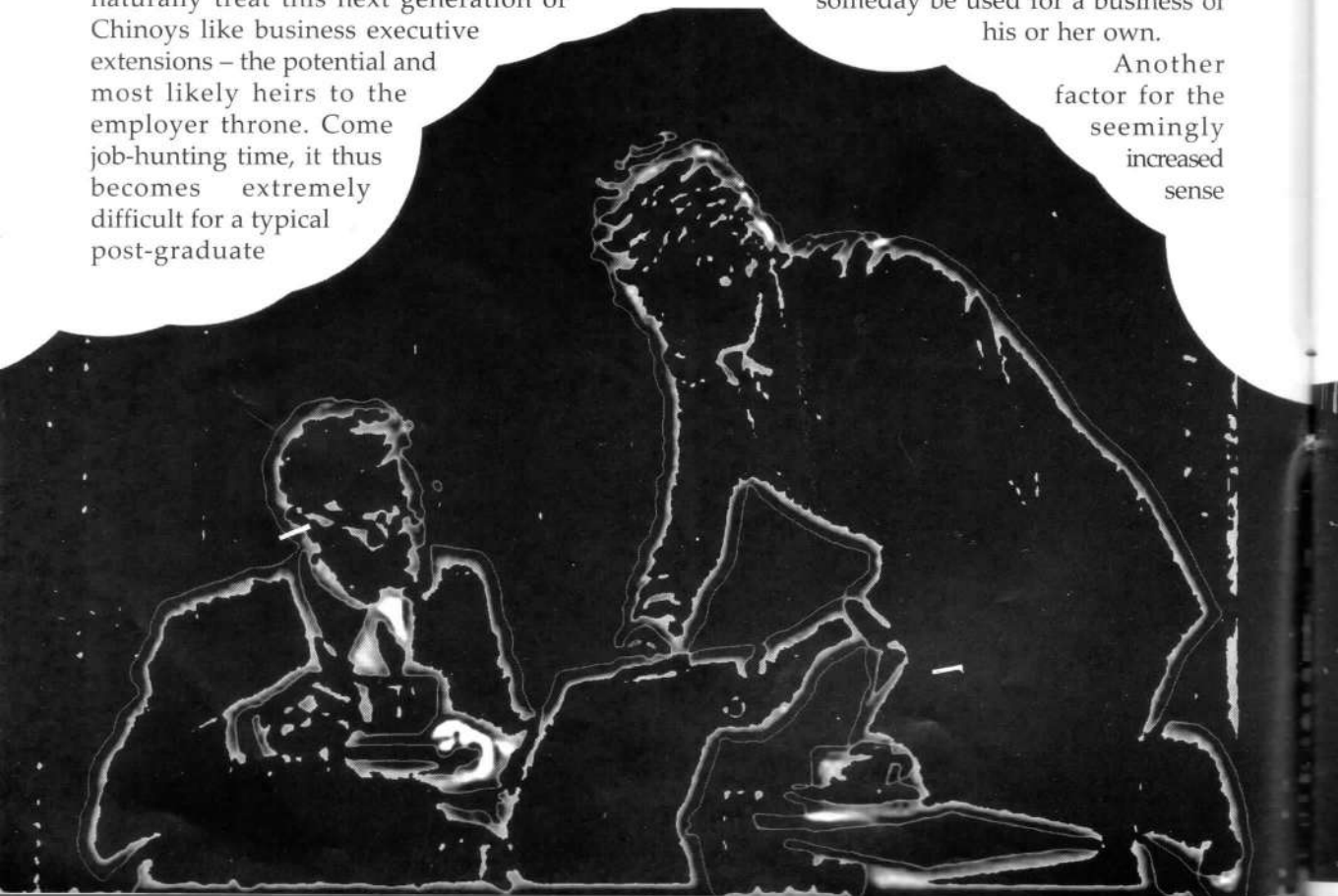
it operates. Chinoy kids who have shown a particular gifted knack for computer technology, graphic design, or information systems early on in life are especially introduced and integrated part-time into the family business quickly since these are the skills that this generation of Chinoy parents are generally unfamiliar with. The workers of the parents naturally treat this next generation of Chinoys like business executive extensions – the potential and most likely heirs to the employer throne. Come job-hunting time, it thus becomes extremely difficult for a typical post-graduate

Chinoy to separate the big boss treatment that he or she received from an early age from the subservient follower that he or she is expected to be at the day of the interview.

This helps to explain why there are instances in the extreme (before moving on, take note that these instances far from represent the norm and are thus labeled as extreme cases) wherein job acceptance is put on the line for previously arranged plans to play golf. There are instances when supposed-to-be awkward and intimidated applicants drive up to corporate headquarters for entry-level job interviews in power executive luxury cars

that rival that of the particular company's CEO. Indeed, even if we restrict ourselves to the realm of the average conservative and non-flamboyant Chinoy, it is oftentimes an easy task to find a Chinoy working at a corporate office that is unassociated with his or her family name, who will confess that he or she is there mainly for the job training that will someday be used for a business of his or her own.

Another factor for the seemingly increased sense



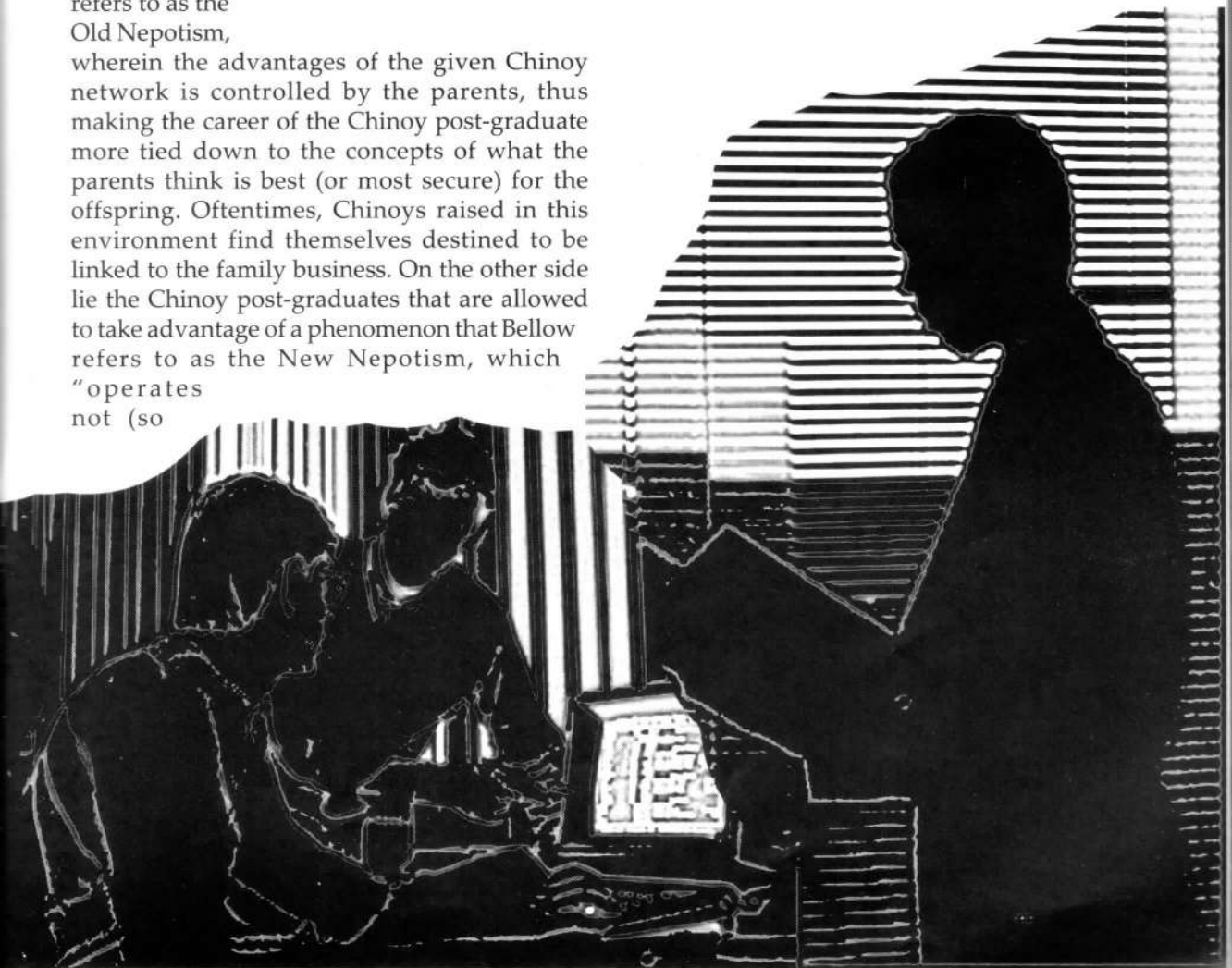


of Chinoy job insurance is basically the aggregate result of a lot of Chinoys having many businesses of their own spread throughout a diverse range of industries: An intricate network of connections. Now, at this point, it is important to take note that there is a difference in Chinoy family mentality that plays a major part in determining whether the Chinoy post-graduate grooms himself or herself to be the heir apparent to the family business or to be an independent businessman. Once again, we refer to author Adam Bellow to help lay down the definitions of the opposite ends of the family businessman and independent businessman spectrum. Chinoys raised in more traditional families often find themselves in an environment of what Bellow refers to as the Old Nepotism, wherein the advantages of the given Chinoy network is controlled by the parents, thus making the career of the Chinoy post-graduate more tied down to the concepts of what the parents think is best (or most secure) for the offspring. Oftentimes, Chinoys raised in this environment find themselves destined to be linked to the family business. On the other side lie the Chinoy post-graduates that are allowed to take advantage of a phenomenon that Bellow refers to as the New Nepotism, which "operates not (so

to speak) from the top down but from the bottom up: it is voluntary, not coercive; it springs from the motives of children, not the interest of parents; it tends to seem natural rather than planned." These are the Chinoys who are granted independent control of their respective families' pre-existing network to use according to how they see fit.

Of course, regardless of new or old types of career paths, there are very similar elements in both that have remained constant for today's Chinoy job-hunter. The path is expected to remain in the field of financially sensible business. The fundamental choices given to the typical Chinoy post-graduate are restricted to which well-paying business to work for and when to start self-running a well-paying business soon after that. ●

# Career

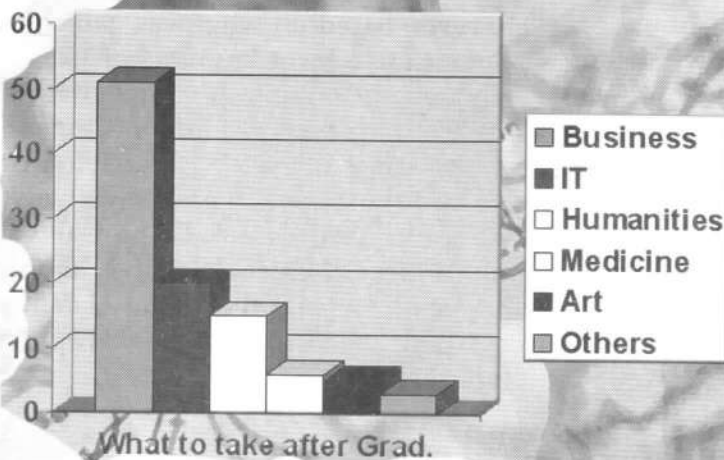


# Survey 101

by Liz Yap

THE media has kept us keenly updated on who's leading the presidential race through surveys conducted by various agencies. I'm sure we've all read about them in the major broadsheets recently, what with the coming elections. That being said, it would perhaps be a relief to know that this article isn't another one about *those* survey results. It is, however, about the results of a survey conducted by and among our very own Celadoneans.

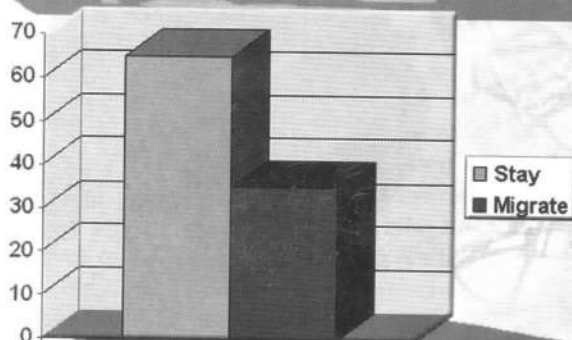
During this year's second Celadon general assembly, the Analysis of Surveys and Questionnaires (ASQ) team of the Human Resources department conducted a survey in order to help other departments plan their projects. Questions mainly included possible career paths after graduation, feelings regarding different



cultures, and more. Presented here are the results, some surprising while others, expected. Read on.

Celadon members were in agreement when they were asked which path they intended to pursue after graduation. A whopping 51% of all respondents said that they wanted to remain on the business and entrepreneurial side of things. No other career path came close. Information technology came in second but with a wide margin, as chosen by 20% of those surveyed. Other answers were not as united, with a diverse number of respondents choosing humanities and languages (15%), medicine (6%), and the arts (5%), among others.

Respondents were also asked where they could see themselves raising a family. Despite its weakening economy and political turmoil, 65% of those surveyed were adamant about staying here in the Philippines, still optimistic about the country's future. Moving away was not an unlikely choice for the others, however, as 18% of those surveyed answered North America. Europe (13%), China (6%), and Australia (2%) were considered possible options as well.





## Feature Story

As a follow-up question, respondents were also asked what their number one motivation for moving to another country was. Votes were split almost equally between "safety" and "economics", each gathering 41% and 44% of the answers respectively. Jobs, education, and political stability rounded out the top five of the answers.

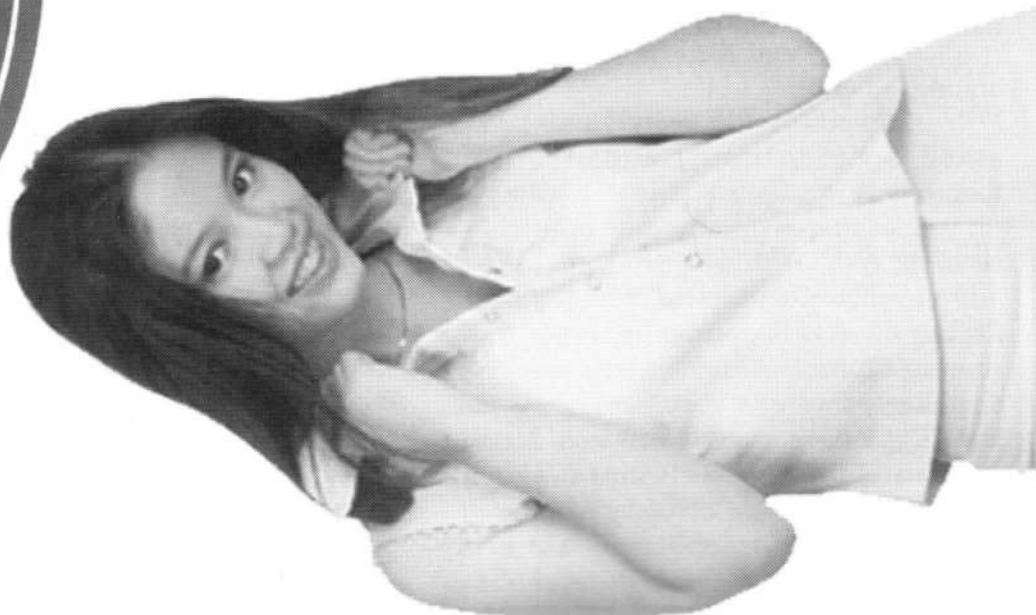
When asked which culture they felt most in touch with, 43% of those surveyed chose Chinese culture. The rest answered "mixed" (39%) and Filipino (22%).

These results may have been subjected to many different interpretations. They may not even perfectly represent the entire Celadon member population.

However, based on what was gathered, it seems that a large number of Celadon members still maintain values that have been held by a lot of Filipino-Chinese in the past: They all maintain a preference for going into business and putting up with the uncertainties of this country. The results also show a lot of alternative choices, although none of them were as close to unanimous. This shows the increasingly varied opinions of the Chinoys of today. ☺



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**T**O situate one's self in a foreign land, without any family member or friend by their side, poses difficulty person especially when it is not only the people who are strange but as is the language which they speak. Furthermore, this experience requires a lot from us—adjusting to the new environment, identifying ourselves with other people and realizing some new things about ourselves as well as other people. Abby Go, a Celadonean, experienced all this as she explored the wonders of China. She, together with other fellow Ateneans, joined the Junior Term Abroad program that lasted from August to December of last year.

When traveling, one cannot afford to miss visiting the country's famous places. Beijing, China presented itself to Abby through sites such as the Temple of Heaven, the Forbidden City, the Summer Palace, and Tiananmen Square. Outside of Beijing are Guilin and Yangshuo where one can find Chinese paintings of the water mountains, some famous stops in the Silk Road including the Terra Cotta Warriors and Horses and the westernmost end of the Great Wall. Yet having gone to these places is just a small part of the story. The bigger part is how one stranger lived her life in this strange land.

Abby, like many other Chinese-Filipino who grew up in the Philippines, had to adjust to how the local Chinese were actually living their lives. "They definitely move faster so I have to move faster than usual. *Dito kasi mas relaxed yung mga tao so kahit pabanjing-banjing ka lang medyo ok pa. Doon lahat mabilis:* Restaurant service, check-out counters in the supermarkets, even their pace when they are walking," she says. On the other hand, a deeper way of adjusting to this new environment was actually being able to identify one's self to the rest of the crowd of Chinese and Americans Abby was with for four months. Talking about the latter, she says she found herself in the same situation as her new friends. She remarks, "We're all away from home, thrown into a land that is foreign to us, and immersed among people who don't speak the same language that we always do."

Despite such differences, what matters most are the experiences she gained during her stay. Although she went through several physical dilemmas such as falling off her bike, breaking two of her front teeth, and spraining her left wrist, she claims that when given the chance to do everything all over again, she would. "When will I be able to ride a camel again or watch the sunrise on top of the sand dunes? It is not every day that I will encounter these [things]," she adds.

Layout by: Raizelle So

...what matters most are the experiences she gained...

In the end, what is the importance of all these things if we don't learn anything from them? For Abby, the four months she spent in Beijing helped her realize some things. First, her experience taught her to pay more attention and better appreciate the things around her. Second, as she mingled with the Americans, she realized that despite the differences in their cultures, building a relationship with them was not impossible. Third, she was able to prove wrong the negative stereotype image of Americans. According to her, not all Americans are like those portrayed in movies. Her roommate, for instance, always went out clubbing or bar hopping but she never came home drunk. Lastly, she noticed how well-informed and opinionated they were. That made her realize how Americans seem to have something to say about every single issue, not just the latest gossips but even those relevant to us. "I think we should be more aware of the bigger world out there and I can say that this is one of the most important things that I realized during my trip," was her final statement.

Her adventure certainly gave her unforgettable moments and experiences whether sad, happy, frustrating, or fulfilling. But along with those things are realizations, which either helped her understand things or gave her an even deeper understanding of what she already believes in. This is how things should be for us. Every experience must be taken as a chance to learn, and every single thing we learn, we must carry with us as a guide when we pursue our own journeys. ☺

...along with those things are realizations...

*"We're all away from home, thrown into a land that is foreign to us, and immersed among people who don't speak the same language that we do."*



*"We should be more aware of the bigger world out there..."*

photos c/o Abby Go



# CHINESE

*Isn't Just*



# FOR CHINA ANYMORE

By Jeleen Yu

**T**RUST Ozzy Osbourne to say it best: "It's one of those d@%\$ songs you can't get out of your head!" He's talking about Sean Paul, reggae's hottest new artist, and his highly infectious hip-hop dance hit "Get Busy", which flooded airwaves worldwide last summer. But what most people don't know about this reggae singer from Jamaica is that he's one-third Chinese—yes, there are Chinese-Jamaicans, and Sean Paul is one of them, along with top supermodel Naomi Campbell, who is half-Chinese and not ashamed to show it. And if the names Keanu Reeves, Lucy Liu, Ang Lee, and Kristin Kreuk ring a bell, then you guessed it—they're all Chinese, in one way or another.

If you thought that Chinese were only found in Asia and in North America, think again:

there are Chinese in the Bahamas, Haiti, Fiji, Jamaica, South Africa, Mexico, Brazil, and even in Trinidad and Tobago. And if you include those in Canada, USA, New Zealand, Australia, the Middle East, Europe, and other parts of Asia, it's no surprise that the number of Chinese immigrants around the globe has reached roughly thirty-four million in recent years. But not all of these Chinese lead charmed lives. Most

"...there are Chinese in the Bahamas, Haiti, Fiji, Jamaica, South Africa, Mexico, Brazil, and even in Trinidad and Tobago."

have experienced at least some form of racial discrimination, and in many parts of the world, Chinese have to struggle to keep their

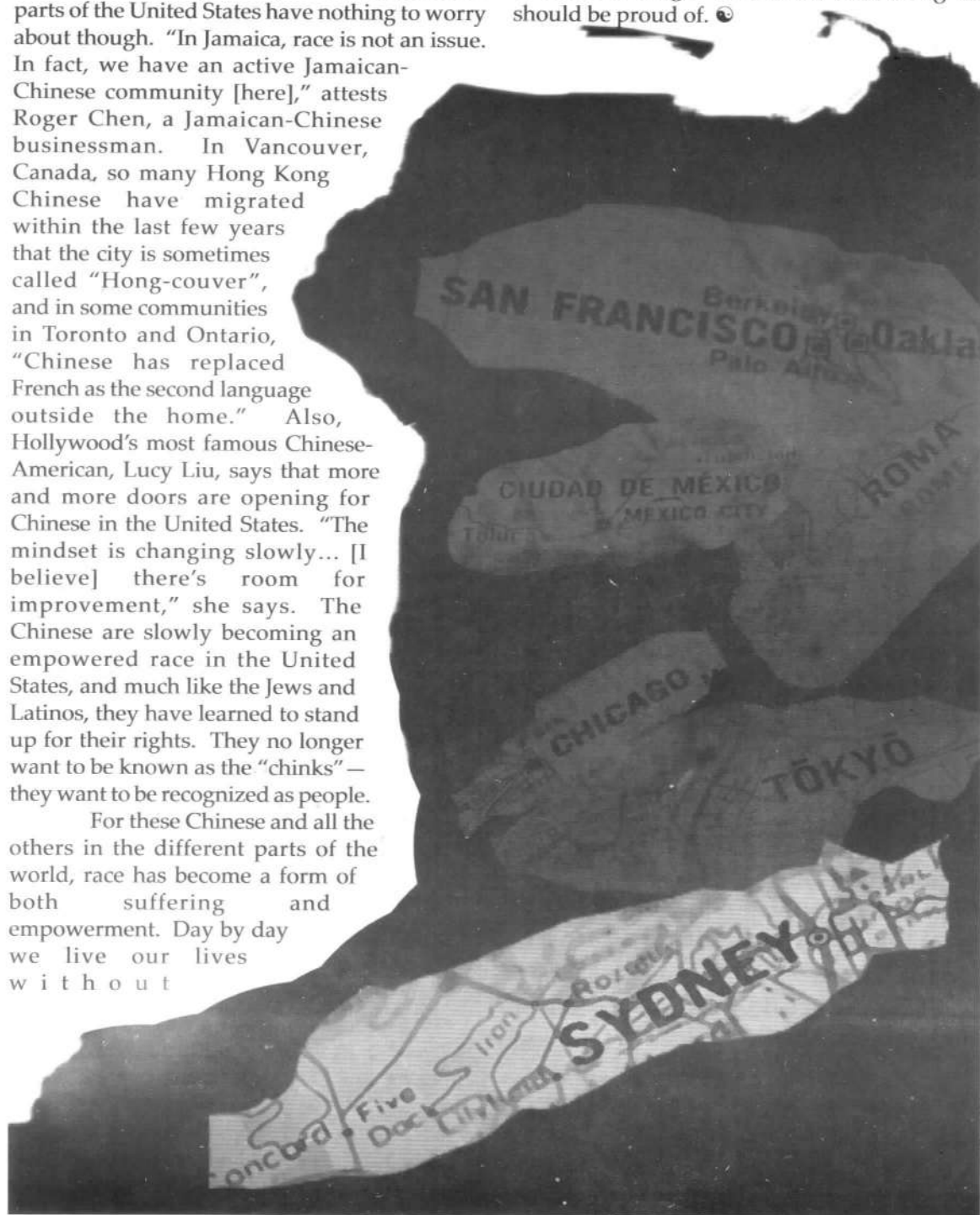
cultural identity. Ip Manying, a Chinese senior lecturer at Auckland University in New Zealand, says that Chinese are the "butt of racist jokes and stereotypes", and that "most [Chinese] seeking employment stay within the family operations...because of the hostility of the social climate." Chinese-Indonesians face the same hostility, often being hit with racial slurs and claiming that they have even been

"physically and mentally harassed" by the government and other Indonesians. More than 12% of Chinese in Australia are out of work, and Dr. Ian Watson, a researcher of Sydney's Australian Center of Industrial Relations, notes "there is strong evidence... of a range of cultural barriers stopping Chinese workers getting into management in the first place."

Chinese in Jamaica, Canada, and in most parts of the United States have nothing to worry about though. "In Jamaica, race is not an issue. In fact, we have an active Jamaican-Chinese community [here]," attests Roger Chen, a Jamaican-Chinese businessman. In Vancouver, Canada, so many Hong Kong Chinese have migrated within the last few years that the city is sometimes called "Hong-couver", and in some communities in Toronto and Ontario, "Chinese has replaced French as the second language outside the home." Also, Hollywood's most famous Chinese-American, Lucy Liu, says that more and more doors are opening for Chinese in the United States. "The mindset is changing slowly... [I believe] there's room for improvement," she says. The Chinese are slowly becoming an empowered race in the United States, and much like the Jews and Latinos, they have learned to stand up for their rights. They no longer want to be known as the "chinks"—they want to be recognized as people.

For these Chinese and all the others in the different parts of the world, race has become a form of both suffering and empowerment. Day by day we live our lives without

realizing that out there, there are so many Chinese like us who are being persecuted and degraded simply for being who they are. And yet there are others who have taken this experience, learned from it, and made something out of it. It all depends on how we choose to look at it. We may never be singers, models, or Hollywood actors, but we all share the same Chinese heritage—and that's something we should be proud of. ☺



# Dy Song Bee's Message to Celadon

Celadon Moderator

AT the end of the school year when Celadon, the Chinese-Filipino student organization of the Ateneo de Manila University, takes stock of its accomplishments, I have only greetings of congratulations for the many and varied, small or grand scale, meaningful activities they have successfully organized. It is a year of hard work that is worth your effort and time, a year of joy for being able to contribute your best to achieve the goals and objectives of fostering better understanding and building bridges among Filipino and Chinese students. To each member of Celadon, and foremost to its Executive Board, I would like to extend my gratitude for upholding the ideals of the organization, and my hope that you pass on your admirable zeal and commitment to the incoming members next school year.

May Our Lord continue to bless the efforts of the coming generations of Celadon members.



photos by Paul Ty





by: Christine L. Ruiz

photos c/o PECLAT egroup

People say that eagles and archers are just like water and oil. You can never mix them together. But last January 17, 2004, we proved them wrong. Forty students from Ateneo Celadon and La Salle Englicom all met at Mt. Sea Resort for the Pangatlong Englicom Celadon Leadership and Team Building Seminar, more known as PECLAT.

The cool breeze of the sea and relaxing ambiance of the place were enough to put our differences aside. We all met at the conference room to formally start the PECLAT. It started off with a welcoming note by Celadon President Clarence Lim followed by a speech from Englicom President Editha Ong. After listening to their talks of leadership, several activities followed. The Englicom and Celadoneans were split into several groups, each having a mix of members from both sides. Each group had to compete in several games, with each game corresponding to points for the winning team. The team that garnered the highest number of points won.

The game started with a cheering competition that had required each team to come up with their own team name and a cheer. The Phoque team won second place in this round when Oliver Chong and Lawrence Ong did a dance for judges Fred Monteverde and Lorenzo Te. But Gang Bang 51 easily won the game when Chester Yap of Englicom wowed the judges with his cowboy moves.



PECLAT

The next round however required the teams of mind skills. Each team was given a limited amount of resources to make a boat or a ship that could easily race across the pool of Mt. Sea. Teams came up with their own creative versions of boats and ships. Following this was the real challenge as teams scavenged around for clues that would eventually lead them to the end of the game. Some of the activities required them to do charades, acting, solving puzzles, and treasure hunting.

The games however were not enough to drain the energies of the teams as Celadoneans and the Englicom people changed into their swimwear and jumped into the pool. We enjoyed frolicking in the pool so much that the management of Mt. Sea Resort had to remind us that the pool was for use only until midnight. But the fun didn't stop there. Both blue and green sides continued to have fun while playing PlayStation 2, Taboo, Cranium, and Dirty Minds. Laughter and giggles simply exploded in each and every room. In the end, it was sheer exhaustion that knocked us all to sleep.

Hugs and more hugs followed when it was all time to leave the place. But the PECLAT didn't actually end there, as the whole group was split into two after deciding either to watch a movie or to play bowling. With this, friendships were formed and ties were strengthened.

Three cheers go to Ryan "Ollie" Dy (3 BS ECE) and Kristina "Tina" Roque (3 BS LM) of Celadon, to Berenice "Bere" Chua and Fred Monteverde of Englicom, and to their respective team members for the success of PECLAT. The PECLAT was exceptionally successful, thus Englicom proposed to have a SECLAT, a Summer Englicom Celadon Leadership and Team Building Seminar! ☺

Layout by: Lady Krystle Tanmantiong

# THE DRIVE TO LEAD

by Diana Tan



JANUARY saw Celadoneans speeding up the highway to leadership through Celadon's Leadership Training Seminar. Aptly entitled **DRIVEN**, HR's brilliant trio of Eric Limkingwei (3 BS MGT), Stephanie Go (2 BS ME), and Ash Co Kehyeng (3 BS LM) thoroughly filled the two days with enough activities, talks, and competitions to make sure that everyone was kept busy while having a good time.

Who would have thought that the "Egg Game" would turn out to be such a hit?

After painstakingly wrapping their egg with newspapers, tape and straw, the participants all held their breaths as their overly protected eggs were tossed from a second-storey building. Not surprisingly, almost all the eggs survived the fall, with two unfortunate exceptions. The game was followed with exceptional talks by speakers sharing their own experiences and insights on the arduous, albeit rewarding task of leadership. Ms. Jo-an Chua, a former Celadon VP for Marketing and Finance, talked about how helpful org life actually is in the workplace. OSA's Sir Tatot Quiblat then focused on the necessities of Organization Development, peppering his speech with racy remarks in his inimitable brand of humor. The series of talks concluded with the graduating members of the Executive Board sharing their most memorable (and

embarrassing) moments in Celadon, imparting their own words of wisdom to the 90 expectant faces of the next generation of leaders.

The enlightening afternoon was followed by fun, and bonding as the theme of the night. Some of the groups sung their hearts out at Karaoke bars, some went bowling, while others simply sat down and talked. Quite a few friendships were developed and strengthened during that sleepless night.

The culminating activity held on the

morning after was eerily similar to a defense for Marketing class: Each group had to present and defend an entirely new concept as a project for Celadon next year. After bouts of grilling and daunting question and answer portions, the

Gurple team (since the Green and Purple teams were merged due to lack of members) composed of Gordon Lim, Timothy Tan, Colynn de Guzman, Rachelle Dee, Kalen Lin, Jules Ang, Charlotte Chua, Ronald Tang, Bernice So, and Larrisa Hao Chin took home the coveted prize of P1,000.00, as well as the honor of being **DRIVEN's** Champions.

Because of **DRIVEN's** success, Celadon can rest easy with the knowledge that it has a brand new group of ready and revved up leaders, with the drive and the power to lead and succeed.



**Driven's participants.**



**Brainstorming for an activity.**



# Like Bees to Honey: Celadon's Petal Attraction

by Victor Barreiro Jr.



**M**ANY Ateneans flocked to the Doghouse last February 9 – 13 as

Ateneo Celadon sought to bring out the romantic spirit in preparation for this year's Valentine's Day celebration. Dubbed *Petal Attraction*, the Ateneo Celadon's Valentine's booth allowed

students to pre-order their gifts, as well as set up deliveries within the week.

And what valuable gifts they were! Approaching the Valentine's sale from a

But what made this year's Celadon Rose Sale unique, aside from the name change? Added to last year's roster of romantic goodies

were this year's violin accompaniment to the harana services by our very own Mic-Mic Noriega (2 BS MGT), our own version of the Coca-Cola Beat challenge,

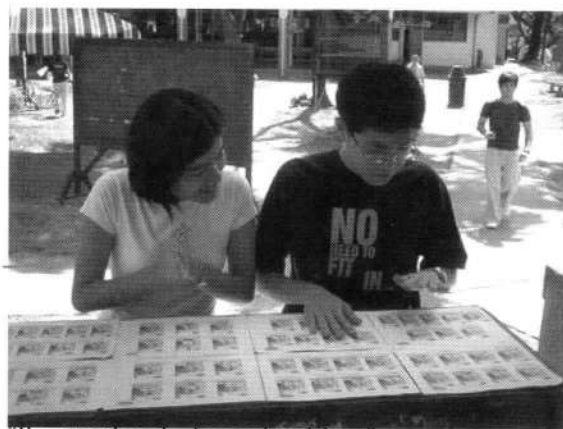


Celadon's Petal Attraction at the Doghouse.



The Harana Team.

different angle, *Petal Attraction* sold stuffed toys from a variety of distributors, such as *BearHugs* and *E.G.G.*, as well as offering the usual flower sales and delivery.



"It's a beat...bawal sablay."

and free movie passes as added bonus to our dozen-rose customers.

Talking about the success of Celadon's *Petal Attraction*, Birdie Salva, Celadon's VP of Marketing and Finance, said simply, "We made a lot of people fall in love."

That couldn't be more true.



Layout by: Herschel Sy



# Celadon Week 2004: Orient Yourself!

Amidst the paintings and picture-takings, the talks and the tattoos, the exhibits and the exhibitions, the Shaolin monks and the Lion Dance puppeteers, the Oriental Delights and the sleepless nights, lie the talented task force who have made Celadon Week 2004 not only a possibility, but a victory. This page is dedicated to the people who have significantly helped promoting the different folds and facets of the Filipino-Chinese tapestry to the Ateneo community. To Mr. Leoncio Miralao and Ma'am Nitz of the Ateneo Multi-Purpose Cooperative; to Dr. Ellen Palanca, Mr. Francis Navarro, Ms. Daisy See, and Ma'am Ritchie of the Chinese Studies Program; to Ate Mhir, Sir Tatot, Sir Reg, Ate Joy, and Ma'am Tin of the Office of Student Activities; to Mrs. Sumpaico, Ma'am Kat, Sir Ely, and Sir Gabby of the Office of Administrative Services; to Mother Lily Monteverde for the *Mano Po 2* film showing, to Mr. Charlie Chao; to the KAISA Para Sa Kaunlaran, Inc.; to the Chinese Embassy; to our beloved moderator Ms. Song Bee Dy; to our beloved adviser Mr. Gad Lim; and to all the Celadon members, managers, and Executive Board members who helped in making Celadon Week 2004 a success, thank you very much! We would not have won the COA Award for Best Project without you. - *Jan Clarence V. Lim*



Above: Ribbon-cutting with President Clarence Lim, Ma'am Nitz of AMPC, Ate Mhir of OSA, & Doctor Palanca of Chinese Studies

## Memories...



Above: Setting up booths & decors along the Celadon Week 2004: Orient Yourself Hallway at Quad 1



Above: Celadoneans Jep Peralta & Dianne de Guzman give away souvenirs



Above: The Chinese New Year Lion, maneuvered by puppeteers, struts its stuff around the Ateneo campus



Above: Celadoneans and non-Celadoneans expressing artistic creativity while passing time at the Mural Painting Booth



Above: Wushu monks that wowed Ateneans

Left: OSA's Sir Reg beats the Robopong record

Right: Soothing music played with traditional Chinese instruments



# SENIOR FAREWELL

Perseverance Patience Humor

Confidence Hope Tenacity Modesty

**I**T never occurred to me that I'd be active in an organization in college - much more lead one. I used to avoid extracurricular activities in high school, dreading the thought of sacrificing rest time for trainings and meetings. Celadon made me realize that work can be meaningful - and fun - after all.

As president, there have been countless times of frantic juggling of studies and org, not knowing which to put first, always boggled with how Celadon can be brought to greater heights. Words just can't describe how happy and proud I am whenever Celadon, through the pulled efforts of dedicated Celadoneans, is able to accomplish something, big or small.

This year has been rich with learning experiences for me - filled with excitement, hope, warmth, nervousness, frustration, happiness, laughter and tears (from both the pressure and yes, the corny jokes). More important than the valuable lessons learned, however, are the memories that I have with the lovable and loving Celadoneans, both old and new. It

is with and because of them that I've grown to love our org so much.

To all of you who supported Celadon, most especially to our moderator Ms. Song Bee Dy and adviser Mr. Gad Lim, thank you for being there for

us. To the Celadoneans, thank you for the initiative, the passion, the commitment, the all-out effort, and, *most* especially, the friendship. What Celadon is right now is because of YOU. To the undergrads, make the most out of your stay in Celadon. Make a difference. You can. Celadon has grown a lot since its birth in 1985. It can grow MORE. It's all up to you. *Kaya*, go Celadoneans! Go Celadon!



- Jan Clarence Lim, outgoing President

CELADON has been a part of me ever since I was a freshman.

I've experienced a lot of ups and downs with Celadon—from being a member, to a project manager, and finally to an EB officer. With the excellent training and wonderful opportunity I got from Celadon, I slowly transformed

into a person who is more mature and more adept in handling people, projects, and events. I have grown a lot and definitely have learned a lot during my four years of stay in Celadon. My college years will definitely be empty without Celadon in it.

Now that I'm about to graduate, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the people who have supported me and have been with me through all these years. Celadon has become my second home and the friends that I have in the org has become my second family. You guys are the best! I will definitely miss all of you. The memories I have with you will surely be treasured forever. My fellow EBlings, thanks for being so hardworking, passionate, open, determined, and simply amazing! Celadon this year won't be as great as it can be without all of your help and determination. For the Celadon room people, thanks for always being so warm, friendly, and accommodating! Project managers, thank you for your hard work, patience, and dedication! I know that there are a lot of requirements and responsibilities from you, but amidst all that, you did a very satisfactory job! Congratulations and hope you know how much we appreciate all your contributions for the betterment of our organization. And lastly, to our beloved members, thanks for all your efforts for helping and supporting Celadon. Without all of you, such a great organization won't be possible. Thank you and I hope Celadon will have a continuing success throughout the years.

- Jane Carol Or, outgoing Executive Vice-President



*EVERY good thing must come to an end.*

This statement has never been so true and real as it is to me now. I have lived a better part of my college life with Celadon and have witnessed it grow for four years. I am truly blessed and proud to have been part of Celadon's transformation to what it is right now: A dynamic and vibrant organization. This, of course, is not possible without the tradition of great people who continually strive hard and give their best for the organization. And now, as my Celadon life comes into full circle officially (well, we all know that once a Celadon, always a Celadon), I am without any worries or apprehension for we seniors are leaving with the knowledge that still more people are willing to take the reigns and further drive Celadon towards a better and brighter future.

I will surely miss the Celadon room: Its fun, albeit, noisy atmosphere was always a break from the hectic and serious college life that I had. I will surely miss the games of bridge, chess and many others that have been the trademark of every Celadonean. I am going to miss the work in Celadon: The very thing that helped me grow as a person. However, what I am going to miss most are the people I have been with in the past four years. They are the ones who made my Celadon experience worthwhile, fun and exciting. It is they, those who have graduated before me and those still in Celadon, that I am very thankful for. May God continue to bless Celadon and its people.

For the graduating seniors, the External's department and the Celadon Executive Board 2003-2004, it was one heck of a ride but we finally made it. You are the best and I bid you all good luck in your endeavors.

For the undergrads of Celadon, may you have the same Celadon experience as I had and always remember that Celadon is and will always be all about the people: People who are willing to commit and work hard in their own ways not just for the org but also for each other.

- Ivan Jeremy Lee,  
outgoing External Affairs VP





THERE are of course many things to say about the privilege of living through the Ateneo Celadon experience. For this one, let me go straight to saying that Ateneo Celadon is simply the place I grew up in. Although, it would probably be more accurate to say that it is the place where I reached the height of collegiate immaturity. It is the campus home that raised me and allowed me to measure what I could get away with. It is here where I really learned how to navigate that fine line between amusement and obscenity. This org is also the place where I got to order people around nicely, which is a very strange little trick that I never thought I would be able to do in any imaginable scenario.

Ateneo Celadon, especially that humble molten lava core called the Celadon Room, has been that warm blazing furnace that I always went to when I wanted to melt away all of the day's shortcomings, disappointments, and excess. I was able to cope with some of my most major problems just by surrounding myself with Celadon people. Ateneo Celadon therapy has been so effective in fact that I feel like it actually shrinks depression down to unnoticeability. The very same people who would help me get through a certain problem would later get a bit pissed off at me for not actually informing them that I had a problem that I needed help getting through. I'd just like to say to these people (there are many) that even by playing a ridiculous game like Ultimate Frisbee (Uh oh, they aren't our sponsors now, are they?) with ridiculous "Spirit" rules with you guys was all the anti-depressant medication that I could ask for. No other org has a culture that is as personally fulfilling and as emotionally beneficial to someone's health as this one. So thank you and farewell to the one org that I really felt an organic part of. My mental health may still be questionable, but the rest of me made it through by being here.

- Jason Tan, outgoing Comm. and Pub. AVP

WHEN I think about how I almost didn't push through with my application to join Celadon during junior year, I realize that I came close to missing out on a lot. Being non-Chinoy, Celadon at first seemed like a daunting territory to me, but my stay in the organization proved otherwise.

I guess Celadon's tagline "No need to fit in, you just do" is true, based on my experience. It didn't take very long for me to feel at home in the company of Celadoneans. Moreover, it didn't take very long for me to feel *I am* a Celadonean.

Looking back, I believe that joining Celadon is one of the best decisions I've made. I only wish I had joined sooner. I've met some of the most amiable, endearing, and interesting people I know during my short stint in Celadon.

I also had the opportunity to work on **Chinoy**, and in the process learn about the value of patience, hard work and time management. It was a learning experience, indeed, in the truest sense of the word.

Despite the constant pressure to beat the deadline and the many sleepless nights spent sculpting the issues to perfection, it was a joy working in **Chinoy**. The demands of producing a magazine were a lot, but it didn't seem that hard because there were people who shared the burden with me. In fact, I couldn't have wished for a better, more hardworking staff, and I've made good, good friends along the way.

My, how time flies. I remember starting my first piece for **Chinoy** last school year, and now I'm about to end my last. Before I cap this up, I'd first like to thank the people who made my stay in Celadon truly worthwhile: To the **Chinoy** staff and contributors, who put their hearts in creating their masterpieces for the magazine, a BIG thank you,





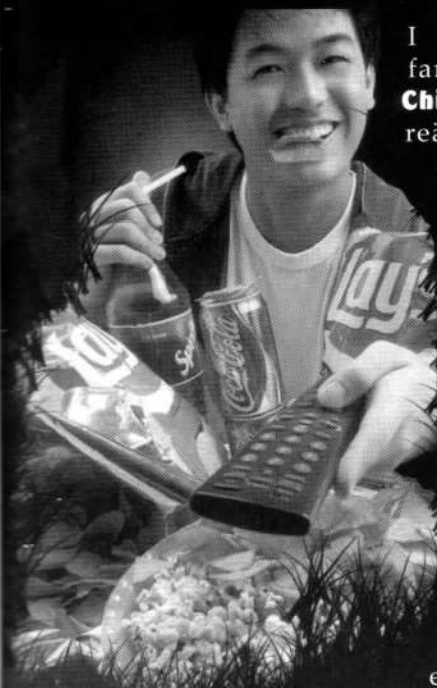
guys! If not for you, the **Chinoy** issues this school year wouldn't have been what they are;

To the **Chinoy** editorial team—John, Merc, Nats, Keefe, Jody, Ads—it was a job well done everyone, and I just couldn't have done it without your help. Thanks for bearing my naggings, for doing your own share of nagging and for staying up late to beat the deadline;

To Jules, Jason, Clarence and Jane—my bosses—thanks for all the assistance, pep talk and guidance;

To the Comm and Pub team, my fellow managers and the EBlings, thank you for being part of my Celadon experience. It's an experience that would stay with me for a long time.

- Melissa Telan, outgoing Editor-in-Chief



I want to say farewell to the **Chinoy** magazine readers and everyone I have worked with in making this project what it is. It has been fun working to bring you guys issue after issue. It has been a bit stressful at times, but a l w a y s worth it. I hope you enjoyed the articles that we have

put together for this school year. I feel sad that I need to leave but I know that as we pass on the responsibilities to the new Celadon members. They will surely make us proud and carry on our legacy. I am looking forward to facing the new challenges that the professional world will bring, but wherever I go and whatever happens I will always bring with me what I have learned from Celadon and from **Chinoy**. Thank you for

giving us your support. You guys are our motivation in trying to come up with better issues. Good luck to the next batch of **Chinoy** staff and thanks again to all you guys.

- John Ong, outgoing Assistant Editor-in-chief

I'M not too good with words, and the things I want to say about, or for, Celadon are a jumble. I tried to sort them out, and this is what I've come up with. Just three things:

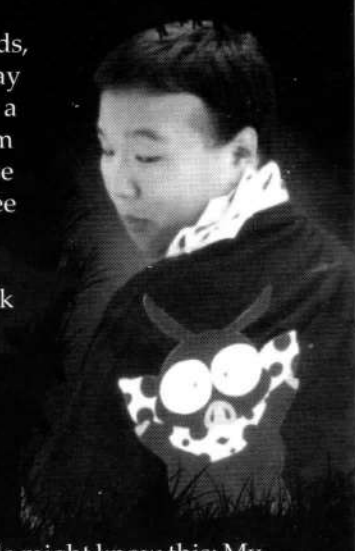
I am sorry, thank you, and God bless.

I haven't been the best member nor the best manager there is. Hard as it may be for some to believe, while some people might know this: My time with Celadon is riddled with regrets. I know I could have done more than what I did, not only with regards to work, but also in relation to people. I am sure there are a lot of very interesting people in Celadon whom I wasn't able to meet, and I know that there are a lot of very meaningful friendships in Celadon that I wasn't able to nurture. For these things and to these people, I'm sorry.

In connection with not doing the best jobs, a number of people have cut me a lot of slack. More invaluable to me, a number of people have reposed a lot of trust in me. I'd like to think that I've learned from my mistakes, that I've grown, thanks to you. Thank you *talaga*.

For all the people I am sorry to and all the people I am thankful for – for the people of Celadon – I pray to God that He will always bless and guide and keep you and your families well. God bless you all. ☺

- Keefe de la Cruz, outgoing Art Editor



# Cladon Ball Murat



photos by  
Paul Ty

# Heaven On Earth

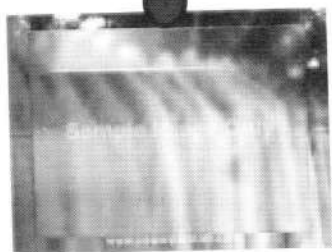
By Imelda Ong and Pam Go



ON earth, there is a place where brilliantly colored clothes, shoes, bags, appliances, and everything else are like fruits on trees waiting to be plucked, all for extremely affordable prices. You cry, where? NOT in Ongpin, as you probably originally thought, but in a place miles away from Binondo. For years, Ongpin has jealously maintained possession of the title "Chinese Shopping." Ongpin has its beauties. But unbeknownst to it, there is, in Greenhills, a place just sprouting, that could give it a run for its money: Virra Mall. In Ongpin, one might find the herbs that *ama* wants, the Chinese medicines that drugstores don't sell but everyone knows are more effective (or so mom says), the hardware tools that dad needs, and so many other things. But what about the too-expensive shoes that *shoti* wants, or the new jeans that *atzi* can't have because she's spent all her money on make up? In other words, however good Ongpin may exemplify Chinese shopping, the fact remains that it caters largely to older generations. Besides, what about the people who live in Greenhills? With prominent Chinese schools like Xavier and ICA within close proximity, it is safe to assume that

a good number of Chinese live in Greenhills. Taking all these into consideration, one wonders why Ongpin remains the top shopping center for the Chinese.

One visit is enough to prove that, indeed, Greenhills Shopping Center is the one place people might want to consider checking out. All around are fantastic bargains, especially for the average Chinese teenager, who wants to dress in fashionable clothes—without creating holes in his pockets. Imagine getting Adidas Pro Model shoes for only P500, blouses of all sorts for as low as P120, sandals for P250, pants for P450, and bags for only P500. Outside, these stuff would normally cost a lot more. Not only are they trendy, they are also just as durable, sometimes even more so. From the form-fitting P300 hip-huggers, to the simple clingy white top, to the black muscle shirt that shows off your pecs, Greenhills has proven itself to be in the forefront of fashion and style. In fact, Greenhills' wares are so up-to-date and so meticulously worked, that anyone would be hard-pressed to identify those outfitted in Greenhills' attire. To Chinese shopaholics, Greenhills Shopping Center must seem like







heaven on earth.

But not only is Virra Mall for fashionistas, it's also for the whole family. Granted, one might encounter considerable difficulty in finding the herbs *ama* wants, or the medicine mom insists on, but that's merely because the image Greenhills is projecting is far from Ongpin's. Ongpin belongs to the past, with its herbs and authentic Chinese medicines and other stuff; while Greenhills belongs to today's generation, with its high-tech gadgets and computer games. Otherwise, this is also one of the best places to visit for mom's fresh fruits and vegetables at affordable prices. Aside from which, this is also the place to get *ahia's* computer games cheap.

A whole day is not enough for one to check out all of Greenhills Shopping Center. For those who've never seen it, picture a maze or a labyrinth, double the number of passages and road-blocks, that's what Greenhills looks like. Add to that the many bright colors of different sizes and shapes, and it's no wonder newcomers easily get lost. Tiring as it may be to join the fun and exploits of thousands of others shoppers and to pass through the narrowest aisles amidst colorful bags and socks of all sorts, one just can't seem to stop one's self from visiting that one last aisle, or that corner stall, or the vendor found at the very center.

When the shopping tires one down, there are always the Chinese restaurants to visit—Maxim's Tea House, Le Ching, DEC, and more for the most refreshing and worth-it meals. Delicious rice toppings such as Sweet and Sour Pork and Beef Brisket are priced at an affordable P55 at Maxim's. A huge and mouth-watering serving of four butchis can be availed for as low as P26. Satisfying meals await every hungry shopper after an exhausting shopping extravaganza.

So what are you waiting for? Get those shopping bags out of your closet and rush on to Greenhills Shopping Center for a taste of heaven on earth!☺

photos by Mercedes Mapua



"...not only is Virra mall for fashionistas, it's also for the whole family."



"Greenhills belongs to today's generation..."



Layout by: Lalaine Ong

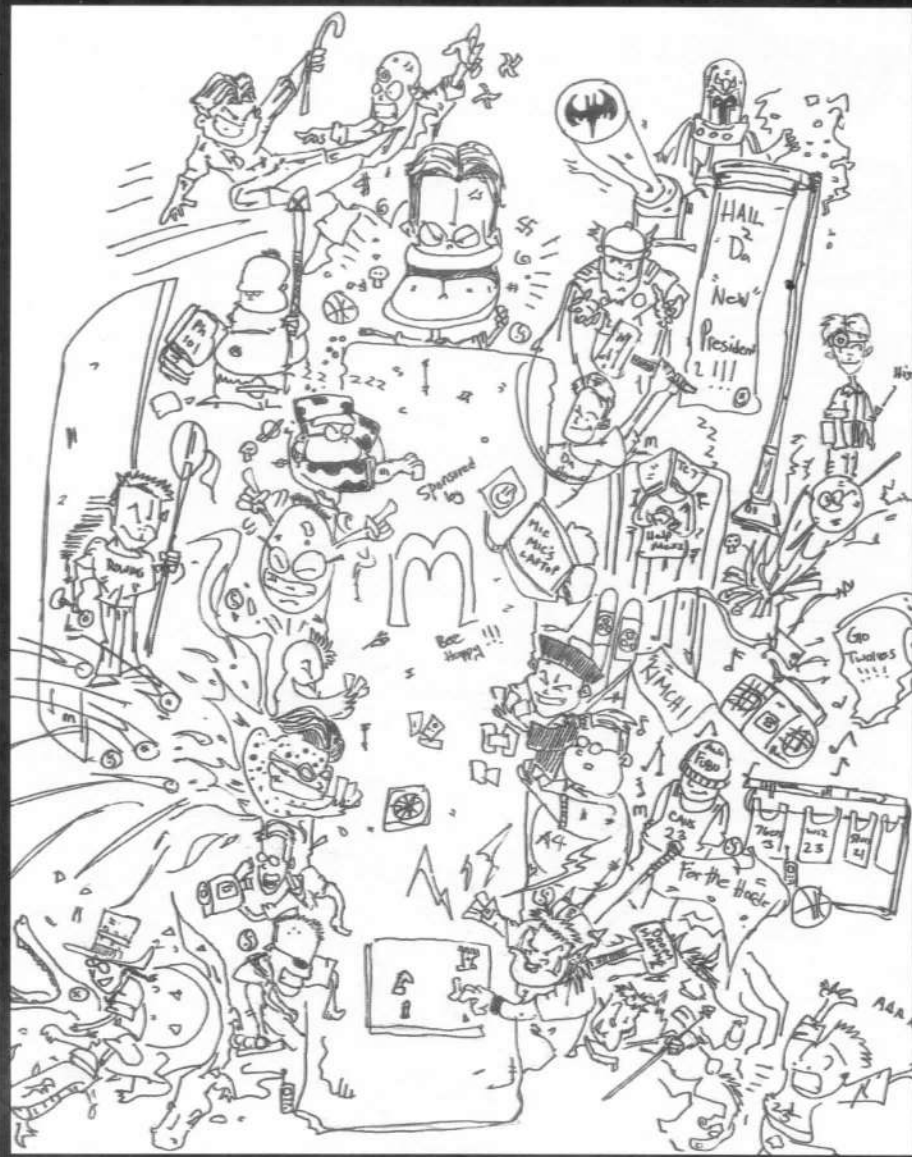
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# Celadon Room Clues

Art by Tristan Rosario

For your entertainment: Find 6 YinYang logos ☯, 3 small McDo logos, 2 cellular phones 📱, and 3 skull idols in the picture ☠.



Art by Tristan Rosario



## We at CELADON

would like to congratulate  
our beloved President

**Ms. Jan Clarence Lim**

for bagging the Council of Organization's  
**Best Student Leader Award**

We are truly proud of you Clarence!

# HIDING IT UNDER A BUSHEL

by Imo Ong

**P**URE Chinese blood, rich with the fire of ancient dragon warriors, the song of painted courtesans, and the earth of silent farmers, flows through my veins. My ancestry goes back hundreds, thousands of years, through the age of drunken emperors, of invading Mongolians, and of arrogant dynasties. There is no race I would rather be, no heritage I would rather claim.

But I deny it with every breath.

My sister and I were in a taxicab on our way home. We struck up a conversation with the driver about his voting preferences this coming May. In the middle of the discussion, the driver suddenly asked in Filipino, "You're Chinese, aren't you?"

Immediately on our guard, we said, "Oh, no."

The driver persisted, "You look Chinese. It's in the way you talk..."

"Just a portion. We're really Filipino," I said.

And the entire time he was quizzing us, recent headlines were flashing through my head. *Chinese businessman kidnapped for P4 million. Fil-Chi coed found dead in trash. Li Chiu Kok's son taken by armed men. Chinese couple hacked to death at ATM.*

It is, perhaps, the end of the age of innocence, when one realizes safety must preclude patriotism, and practicality, pride. The Renaissance fathers and the men who signed the Declaration of Independence were braver than I. Perhaps, too, it is the harder enemy I fight, for it is not the Dark Age nor the British who lie in wait, but something more insidious.

There is much commotion raised when a Filipina maid is found strangled in her

bed somewhere in the Eastern deserts, but there are no eyebrows raised when a Filipino-Chinese is systematically chopped up because his family cannot raise the P10 million ransom. It does not even make the front pages; such commonplace occurrences are buried between stories of murdered wife-beaters and fishball-vending rapists.

It is our fault, perhaps, for being Chinese.

A man beside me on the jeepney was reading his newspaper. "Ah, they're Chinese, after all. They're rich," he said to his companion.

"Yeah, that ransom's nothing," his companion agreed.

Somewhere along the line, the team colors have blurred; and now we are the Sheriffs of Nottingham, and the kidnappers, thieves, and killers are the new Robin Hoods. It is all right to take away the Chinese's money, because they have too much of it, anyhow. And killing them? Well, they're not really one of us, are they?

"That's her own fault. Why'd she go out, knowing there're so many kidnappings these days?" a woman snapped self-righteously when the radio announced the kidnapping of a Chinese schoolgirl.

We who wish to stay safe, then, must bow our heads and pretend we are not what we are. We cover ourselves with the *burha* of fear and hide our surnames and speak only Filipino outside our homes.

I am Chinese, and I will deny it to my last breath; because I wear, after all, no capital S under my shirt; and if they come for me it will have been my fault, somehow, for not having hidden it better.

\*\*\*\*\*

Chinese? Who, me? I'm Filipino. Pure, you know? ☹

Art by Ollie Dy



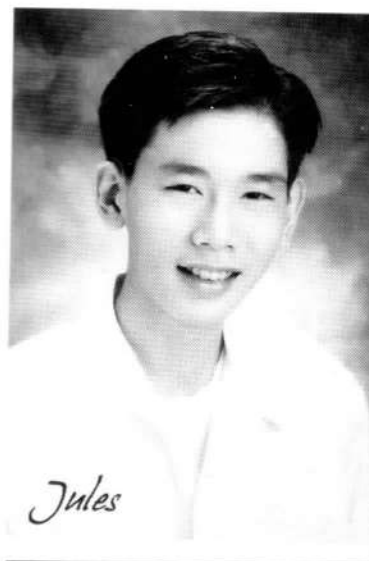
**Imelda "Imo" Ong graduated last March with an A. B. Communications degree. Congratulate her at [imeldaong@yahoo.com](mailto:imeldaong@yahoo.com) and make her delirious!**

Layout by: Lalaine Ong

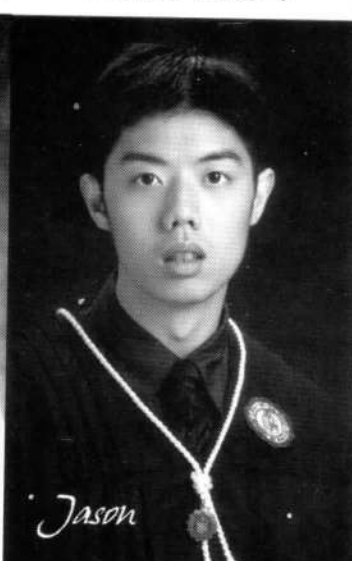
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# Chinoy Editorial Board

2003-2004



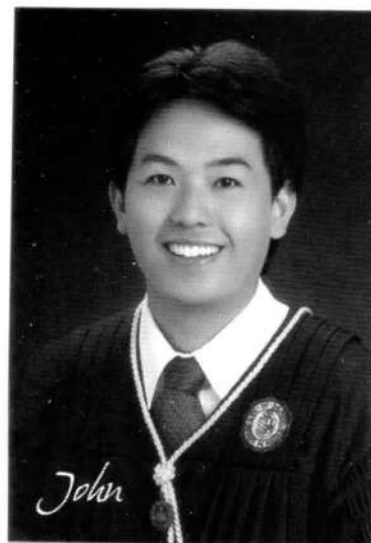
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*Jason*



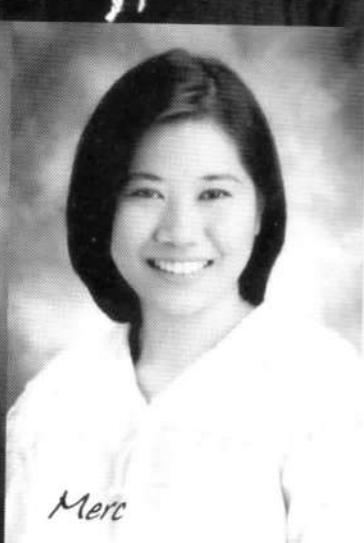
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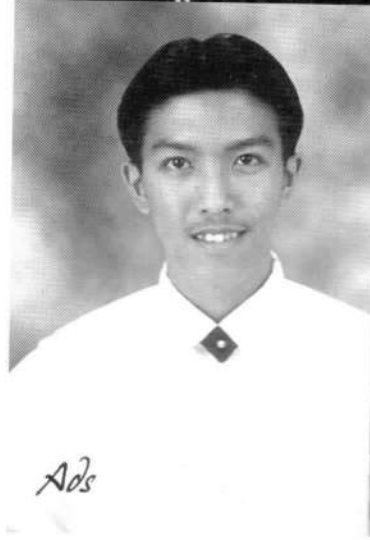
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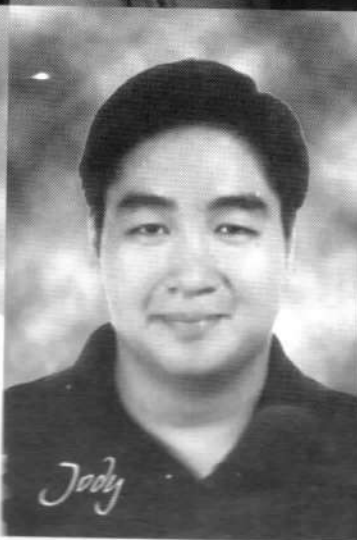
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