



Terrapi **NOISE!**

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Upcoming Events

**Modern Dance
Practices**

Every Mon and Wed at 6PM
Chem Atrium

TURKEYBOWL!!!

Sat. Nov 10 at 7AM
Fairfax, VA

FACES Fashion Show

Thur. Nov 15 at 7pm
Grand Ballroom, STAMP

What is a 'Turkeybowl'?

Turkeybowl is a flag football tournament among the District 6 schools. Despite the rough play and competition, we all leave the field as friends and colleagues, united as a District.



By Margaret Magnaye Freshman Rep

The chapel field wears bald spots in the grass fit for a fifty-year-old man. Little craters from different cleats look like the freckles on a sun-kissed country child's cheeks. Some parts of the land rise and fall like curves of a woman's hips. The chalk lines vary in prominence like the laugh lines by grandma's eyes.

By first sight, it looks rather dead. The dirt patches and ditches are not visually appealing. This is not a place a person would go to have an afternoon picnic. However, despite the doleful condition, these little details actually reveal that chapel field is very much alive.

For the past ten weeks, I have woken up bright and early on Sunday morning to walk over to the field for the highlight of my weekend: Turkey Bowl Practice.

After the first day, I couldn't move my body the morning after. Four weeks into it I had two thumb-shaped bruises on my

chest from where my teammate hit me. A week after that, I had enough contusions on my leg to count on both hands. After our first scrimmage, my favorite shirt was virtually torn in two. As much as I avoided injuring my hands, I sprained my thumb for the first time at our last practice this past Sunday.

You're probably wondering by now, how can Turkey Bowl Practice the highlight of my week when all it seems I undergo is abuse?

My legs may be covered in bruises and right now I can barely grip my pen, but practice is the best part of my week because it's the only time where I'm not treated like a fragile little flower. For once, people aren't scared to break me. In fact, my teammates and coaches have helped me discover that it takes a lot more than one-on-one Oklahoma hits to knock me down. This is flag football, but there is

still contact on the line. Everybody has to learn how to hit as well as how to take one, because at one point or another in the game, you will get hit.

Coaches Francine, Timi and Tabi, along with the help of two alumni players, Chris Gamboa and Casper Edora, have done an exceptional job in preparing us for Saturday. Together, they taught us how to think better, how to work better, how to be better. They pushed each and every one of us to our limits and beyond. They not only showed us how to better ourselves as individuals, but how to effectively work together as a team. Throughout practices, we were constantly reminded that we were a family. If we wanted to win, we had to fight for our family, defend our family. Everything about practice was all about our family.



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Turkeybowl

(Continued)

I am confident that we are going to bring the trophy back home for the third time this Saturday. We are going to win because unlike the other teams, we are more than a group of thirty-something girls, we are one team, one unit, one family.

We all have our own bruises to model to the world. Right now we would be proud to show off our contusion because they were all well earned. To me, these small, discolored, tender spots on my body are proof that I can't break and that my fam-

ily is strong enough to leave them. If it doesn't hurt, we didn't want it hard enough. Our bodies are like the chapel field. We are beaten and battered but we are not broken. The field is alive with our legacy. Fifty-year-old men have bald spots because they were well earned. Sun-kissed country children have freckles on their cheeks because they were well earned. Women have curves on their hips because they were well earned. Grandma has laugh lines around her eyes because they were well earned. We are going to win this Saturday because it is well earned.—

Filipinos Help With Record Breaking Human-powered Helicopter

By John Osmond

Have you heard of the Gamera Project that is taking place on the University of Maryland campus? It is a research project dedicated to building the human powered helicopter. In the Renaissance era, Leonardo Da Vinci dreamed of building a flying machine that would take people to new heights. However, his dream never came to fruition, until just recently.

The University of Maryland's Gamera Project is developing a helicopter that relies only on human power. The project has been in the works for the past 3 years, and the University of Maryland is the closest to obtaining the Sikorsky Prize. The prize entails reaching a flying height of 10 feet and flight time of one minute, all within a 10 meter box. It has remained unclaimed for more than 30 years and the winner is promised \$250,000. The team has already broken the one minute requirement and is just half a foot short of the 10 foot requirement.

The helicopter spans almost 115 feet in its largest dimension and weighs about 80lbs. In order to fly the vehicle, the pilot must be less than 140lbs. The helicopter is comprised mostly of foam and carbon fibers. Its structure is made up of four truss arms with a cockpit in the

middle. It runs using four rotors located at the end of each arm and eight 23 feet blades, two at each rotor.

Sophomore undergraduate student John Osmond is working on the project as a paid undergraduate researcher. He was recruited by University of Maryland and Filipino Cultural Association alumni Luke Alberto. As a member of the team, John works on building the rotors of the helicopter. He spent much of his time over the summer helping in the construction of the blades for the hovercraft along with Luke. Currently John is still working on the project hoping to achieve the Sikorsky Prize along with the rest of the team. The project is expected to end later into the school year, but for now it will continue until the goal is accomplished.

The Gamera Project will be testing their aircraft in Prince George's Sports Complex this week. If you want to stop by to check it out, just go to the sports complex between the times 8:00AM and 4:00PM on Friday. If you are interested or have any questions about the project, talk to John Osmond or contact him at:

josmond@comcast.net



FACES: 'Model' Minority

A personal anecdote of a FACES Fashion model

By Jonathan Reyes
Treasurer

On November 15, the annual FACES Fashion Show, a collaboration between FCA, the Chinese Student Association (CSA), and the Korean Student Association (KSA), will be held in the Grand Ballroom at Stamp at 7 PM. A portion of the proceeds from the event will go toward combatting poverty through to Fashion Fights Poverty.

This year, I was honored to be selected as one of the FACES models. At first, I was unsure of what to expect from the experience, but I can now say that I am incredibly pleased with my decision to join the FACES team. After shaking off the nerve-wracking feeling of "strutting" in front of others, I found myself enjoy-

ing our modeling practices. I took the simplicity of walking for granted until I was asked to step in a highly choreographed pattern and to do so in sync with one or two other people.

Even more, FACES has given me the opportunity to meet people that I never would have met otherwise and to form friendships with them. Going to FACES feels more like going to hang out than fulfilling an obligation. Working with the other models, our choreographer, FCA's own Icah De Guzman, and the rest of the Core team have been high-lights in the past few school-work-filled weeks and has given me fond memories on which I can reminisce after the show.—

In Case You Missed It!



As usual, FIND proved to be a great chance for students to learn more about Filipino culture while empowering the Filipino American community. Hosted in George Mason University, the "Dream for More" Dialogue encouraged delegates to achieve their own dreams, just as Filipinos have achieved theirs in the past.



Making History, One Seat at a Time

Vice Mayor in the City of Alameda, California, Rob Bonta ran for a position in the California Assembly in the recent election and won with 50.8 percent of the votes. His win will make him the first Filipino-American in the California State Assembly.

Two others, of a handful of Fil-Ams who won seats include Robert C. Scott, the first American of Filipino descent to serve in Congress, and Donovan dela Cruz, who won a seat in the Senate for Hawaii.

The Cost of Invisibility: Filipinos (Not) In the U.S. Political Process

By Gem P. Daus

Invisibility is a theme that runs through Filipino American studies. Fred Cordova of the Filipino American National Historical Society (FANHS) called us the Forgotten Asian Americans. History forgot our labor activists, our civil rights advocates, our hate crimes victims. All history, of course, is a narrative of selected facts. But this makes the omission more damning, because it means that Filipino stories are not significant enough to make the cut. But more damaging is that our activism is rendered invisible to us as Filipino Americans. Therefore, our relationship to issues like immigration reform is hidden, not just by our Spanish last names but also by our ignorance.

Those of you who have taken my class know that we have contributed a lot more than just song and dance (and let me interrupt myself to plug the newest addition to FAST: AAST398K-Filipino American Leadership

and Community Organizing taught by Jude Paul Dizon). In addition to teaching, I have started an independent research project with Erwin de Leon of The New School to understand our invisibility in two related areas: politics and organization development.

For a population of 3.4 million, there are very few Filipino American elected officials. Even California, the state with 43% of the Filipino population and a rich history of Filipino activism, has never had a Filipino its state legislature. Only now (as of this writing), with three Filipinos running for delegate to the California Assembly, is there a possibility for representation. We also have very few organizations whose primary mission is policy advocacy and political engagement. Of course all types of organizations can be gateways to political engagement. But we would argue that organizations that prioritize changing policies are necessary to focus and fa-

cilitate the resources needed to improve the lives of Filipinos—and lest we perpetuate invisibility again, we hasten to add that Filipinos are indeed affected by national policies, enough to justify our political participation. Our research seeks to define characteristics of and factors behind Filipino invisibility, and discusses the risks of continued political invisibility and benefits of increased political recognition.

The creation of AAST and FAST were political acts. Through these classes, we learn that American history is not only black and white. Similarly, our research will show that Filipinos have played a major role in elections, as campaigners and candidates; and that the growing infrastructure of Filipino-serving nonprofits has potential to articulate and advocate for policies that benefit Filipino Americans. If you are interested in helping, let me know.—

The White House Launches Interagency Working Group on Filipino Veterans to Ensure Fair Review Process

By Christine Bustamante

In 1941, President Roosevelt had called 250,000 Filipino soldiers to fight in the war side-by-side with American soldiers, promising health and pension benefits similar to their American counterparts.

Unfortunately, these men were later denied compensation from the government. For sixty years, these veterans fought to claim what had been promised to them.

I remember in 2009, my first semester at UMCP, Gem Daus introduced me and our FAST (Filipino American Studies) class to the movement aimed at compensating these Filipino veterans who courageously fought in World War II. In fact, through that class I was able to meet a couple of veterans and hear the story of their struggle for equity. They were already extremely old men, but they were

enthusiastic despite their situations.

That year, their movement finally made some giant leaps when President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, which included a provision that created the Filipino Veterans Equity Compensation Fund. Veterans must apply, and those eligible who are U.S. citizens are paid a lump sum of \$15,000 while non-citizens are paid \$9,000. Those amounts are hardly enough to compensate for having risked their lives during war and the long, hard battle for equity that they had to endure. In fact, it probably is not nearly as much as the amount white American veterans received post-war, and many of their comrades had passed away before they could see any significant changes happen. Honestly, I find it all quite



sad, but at the same time, seeing change finally happen did bring some sense of hope.

Apparently since then, over 18,000 claims have been approved. However, there have been many who have felt that they were improperly denied. Recently, the White House Initiative on has created an Interagency Working Group to make

sure that all of the Filipino veterans receive a fair review on their applications. As always, making change in the government can be quite a slow process, but as you can see, change can and does happen. The fact is, you have to just continue fighting for it, especially if it something worth fighting for.—