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Editorial

Journalism is definitely a fine art. It fills the basic need of humans for information, of knowing what is going on, what is new in our environment, what achievement has been made in certain areas, or any other fun fact that gives us opportunity for small talk. For these reasons we decided to create a N-E-W-S-P-A-P-E-R to share information. As I say ‘we’, I refer to all our team members: Lucille Mc Lovin Marito, Alicia Chavez, Mari Hernandez, Carlos J. Perez and our great staff of collaborators and editors, and your server. It started as a small project, but together we delivered the idea and crafted it because we all wanted to be part of something. Hopefully this is the just the beginning of something big which will eventually become a useful communication media which provides a space for expression, entertainment and criteria for Ave Maria students. We hope to benefit our readers, current students, prospects, and alumni. Our vision is to inform students, give them the opportunity and the tools to become significant members of society, as well as helping them in making fundamental decisions in their lives whether it is for academic, social or political matters. Additionally, we hope our work will uphold school spirit, enhance union with God, and promote day to day actions, creativity, care about others, and criticism. By being critical, we will give others and ourselves the start off point to solve problems that we all face. I encourage you to go through these pages and to read them carefully, as each one of them entail a different point of view, a perspective in different scopes, with different sentiments which will take you back to lived experiences and look forward to others.

The Papercut will be published every first Thursday of every month. Look out for the next issue coming December 3, 2009, in which we will have a lot of new topics to discuss. Also we invite you to visit our Blog: http://thepapercutnews.wordpress.com/ where you can also contribute and participate in our project! Sincerely in the job of caring.

Emilia Yang Rappaccioli
Editor in chief
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President of the United States, Barack Obama, along with most of the Democrat members of the senate are trying to implement a new health care bill for the American population. As part of ‘The Obama Plan’, the bill aims at lowering medical insurance costs, general acceptance into an insurance plan, and a restructuration of the health care system in itself. By hearing this proposal, it would be social murder to decline such bill. The problem lies not in the bill itself, but rather in how this bill is going to be implemented.

Despite the United States still being in an economical recovery from the burst of the housing bubble, whose sustainable growth rate (SGR) has not been at its best, the Democratic Party and Obama’s government are trying to solve two problems simultaneously. By charging $247 billion into the federal budget the SGR will improve because all Americans would have a new Health Care insurance system. This $247 billion proposal is just merely to prevent scheduled pay cuts for doctors who treat Medicare patients. The ceiling President Obama has set on this act is $900 billion, which will be plunged in the Federal budget.

The question for Americans now is either to exchange an Insurance plan which will lower the prices for the ones who are already insured and provide those who cannot afford the premiums of insurance companies with low price insurance or to submerge the U.S. in a $900 billion deficit in their Federal budget.

By Gabriela Flores
The 63rd period of the UN General Assembly (GA) 2008-2009 was not an everyday issue in the Nicaraguan media. The GA presidency period of Catholic priest Miguel D’Escoto Brockmann former Minister of the Exterior during the Sandinista period of 1979-1990 recently ended. During his presidential term he shook the foundations of the United Nations, and his actions were very controversial for many orthodox members of the UN community.

The importance of his presidential term and the contribution to the better functioning of the UN came from a drive for a just and more humanistic world. D’Escoto is often described as a man of social service, whose humanistic policies are inspired from Gandhi, Tolstoy, Martin Luther King, Emerson and Thoreau. Although his humanistic way of addressing the delegates in his speeches was heavily criticized by some, he was the first to address friendly ambassadors and chiefs of state as brothers and sisters.

Perhaps the most important issue D’Escoto dealt with was the World economic crisis. He undertook this difficult labor by creating a commission to propose solutions to the crisis under the direction of Joseph Stiglitz, Nobel Prize winner in economics. Before, issues of such nature were handled by the Breton Woods organization and official economists of the dominant countries, whose experts, as D’Escoto said, were unable to manage such situations properly and whose mistaken policies led us up to where we are right now.

Another task the Nicaraguan representative undertook was to push discussion over the controversial praxis of the UN’s Security Council. In these discussions, it was proposed to include representatives— with veto power—from Africa, Latin America, and other important regions of the world. The titanic and very difficult labor should be continued by the new president H.E. Dr. Ali Abdussalam Treki with the support of the growing majority of states that defined and consolidated themselves during the 63rd GA.

Also, D’Escoto promoted a new viewpoint from other nations towards the UN. He managed to prove that the UN was a living organism and that neither the G8 nor the G20 were the ones dictating world politics, but the 192 members are the ones who truly represent humanity.

Last, but not least, D’Escoto stressed the importance of our actions over the environment and the consequences they will have to future generations. In conclusion, the 63rd General Assembly presided by His Excellence Miguel D’Escoto Brockmann was among the most productive assemblies that had taken place during the last 30 years. Tempus fugit and D’Escoto as representative of Nicaragua left his footprint in a positive and everlasting way; His presidency at the UN GA should be a pleasant memory for every Nicaraguan.

Evaluation of the 63rd United Nations General Assembly

By Ernesto Mejía
College life is tough! How are we supposed to balance a spiritually focused life of prayer and a challenging academic schedule, not to mention athletics, clubs, household meetings, and a social life? The challenge is daunting and sometimes we get discouraged. What do we do in those situations? To find out let’s go back in time to the life of the prophet Elijah.

In 1 Kings 19, Elijah, a holy prophet of God, is being persecuted by the “authorities” for being so faithful to God. He flees into the wilderness south of Judah to escape. Once there in the dessert, discouraged, Elijah lies down under a bush and begs God to take away his life. Under the bush Elijah falls asleep from sheer exhaustion. An angel awakens Elijah and says: “Arise and eat.” The prophet looks up and next to his head there are a cake of bread and a jug of water. Elijah arises and eats and drinks, but then he just lies back down again. Once again the angel awakens him and says: “Arise and eat, else the journey will be too great for you.” Elijah gets up, eats and drinks, and with the strength that he receives from that food, walks 40 days and 40 nights to meet God on mount Horeb.

Now you’re thinking: Great story! But how does that help me with my studies? What does this story of Elijah have to do with me? Well like Elijah we too get discouraged. Sometimes we feel like giving up. It is then when we are prostrate on the floor of our life, overburdened by stress, and by our own failures, our Guardian Angel reminds us: “Arise and eat the heavenly food.” “Arise and drink the saving blood of you God and my God.” “Arise and adore the Bread of Angels, made Bread of Men.” And just as Elijah arose and ate and had the strength to walk 40 days and 40 nights, so too when we rise and eat of the Blessed Body of the Lord and drink of His precious Blood, we receive the strength necessary to continue with the difficult task of daily life.

The sun gives off enormous amounts of heat and energy. So much so, that after traveling 93 million miles, the sunlight that hits a solar panel generates quite a lot of electricity. Imagine how much power could be harnessed if there were some way of tapping into the sun directly! When you receive the Holy Eucharist you receive something much more powerful than the sun; you receive the God who created the whole universe. The same God who loves us so much that “…he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16) So let us encourage one another to go to the Eucharistic Lord, to visit Him often, to love Him, and to receive Him often, that we might have the strength to do His will in our lives!
My name is Father Dominic Zeehan. I am thirty six years old. I am Irish and I have been living for the last nine years in Northern Spain in the Province of Cantabria in our religious community, “The Servants of the Home of the Mother”; I had the great joy of coming across the community in January 2000. In August of that year, I left my country and family to follow God’s will along with this community. I have never regretted a single day of my vocation in the Home of the Mother. After the required studies and formation, I was ordained a priest on July 7, 2007. For me this date is significant 7/07/07 (777), because 7 is the number of perfection. I have been a priest for just over 2 years now. It is the greatest gift God has given me; to be a good and holy priest and I thank Him daily for having called me.

Our community was founded on September 8, 1990. So we are still small in number. My first overseas mission has being to work here with Ave Maria University, Nicaragua. I am delighted to be here and so far it has been a very positive experience. Both, I and my brothers in community, have been very touched by everyone’s hospitality and warmth.

The Home of the Mother has three missions in the church: The defense of the Eucharist, the defense of the Honor of Our Mother (especially in the privilege of her Virginity) and the conquest of young people for Jesus Christ.

The Home of the Mother wishes to be characterized by its selfless love for the Church, its profound joy, and the unity among all its members and with the entire Church whom it wishes to serve.

On September 26, 2009 I was ordained in the Cathedral of Cuenca (Spain) therefore I’ve been a priest for two weeks now. I belong to the Association “The Servants of the Home of the Mother” and I owe my vocation to Our Mother, Holy Virgin Mary.

Eight years I ago on August 2001 I asked God to show me his will and I was invited to the peregrination of our Lady of Fatima, with a youth group from Home of the Mother. Once we where there; during a prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament I offered myself to the Virgin Mary to be a priest if her son needed me, even though I had other plans at that point in my life. The Virgin Mary took my word for it and little by little she changed my heart inspiring in me a desire to offer myself up completely to God and become a priest.

Three months afterwards, on November I entered as a candidate to “The Servants of the Home of the Mother”. Today I give thanks to our Holy Mother Mary for having chosen me to be a part of her home and I’m thankful that her Divine Son called me to become a priest in this Priesthood year.

I celebrated my first mass of thanks giving in the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Sorrows patroness of the Dioceses of Cuenca (Spain), I had the grace to celebrate a mass in the chapel of the Fatima apparitions. I realized the Divine Providence wanted me to come to Nicaragua to develop my priesthood ministry in the university of our Lady: Ave Maria University. I’m profoundly thankful for the great welcome that I have received in these Central American lands. I have felt great affection and kindness from the moment I came here. I can see that Central Americans people have profound spirituality and I ask God to overflow all of you with grace. I commend myself to your prayers and I consecrate my newly ordained priesthood to the Immaculate Virgin.
Ave Maria University has a new addition to the teaching staff: Dr. Jose Salmerón. Dr. Jose Salmerón was contacted by the Dean who said they had a job offer that fitted a professional with his skills. They had a meeting and discussed about the school and the psychology program. Dr. Salmerón was interested and looked into the content of the curriculum. He was pleased to see the classes he would be assigned. He was also looking forward to work as a professor once again. Salmerón accepted the job during summer. Dr. Salmerón will be teaching “Introduction to Psychology” for his first year here. When I asked him if the assigned class was the reason why he accepted the job he exclaimed “Truth is I’ve always enjoyed being a professor”.

Dr. Salmerón attended “Universidad Del Valle” in Colombia, where he studied medicine and continued his specialty in psychiatry for three years. He did his social service year in the forest sides of the Andes, with indigenous local communities. Dr. Salmerón first became interested in teaching toward the end of his studies; he was hired as a teacher in the medicine faculty in “Universidad Del Valle” and then continued teaching in other Colombian universities.

Currently he is working in the Metropolitan Hospital. He teaches in Managua’s psychiatric hospital and he has his own clinic where he attends his patients. When I asked him if he preferred teaching or working as a psychiatrist, he said: “If I have to answer, I’d say that the ideal thing is to do both”. Dr. Salmerón enjoys keeping in contact with youth and keeping himself up-to-date in the recent studies of psychology.

I asked him about his hobbies. He answered: “I enjoy listening to music.” “What kind of music?” I questioned, “Classical rock, Jazz, reggae and some salsa, I’m a big fan of music”. Dr. Salmerón also enjoys cinema, reading and going out to open green spaces where he can spend time with his family and enjoy the environment.

Dr. Salmerón says the most important thing of being here is learning and getting more experience. At the end of the interview he asked me what I would change in the way my classes are taught. He made me assure him I would include my answer in the article. My answer is that I would like professors to interact more with students, instead of just using PowerPoint presentations.
Imagine What Our Thoughts Can Do With Us

By Jackeline Vindell Basto

Are we seeing reality with our eyes or with our brain? Thoughts are important to consider when making reference to humans being behavior, emotions, and own reality, because each one of them affect us positively or negatively in life. The brain is the most sophisticated machine, which is constantly processing thousands of thoughts during the day. One though has the power to change the way we feel, perceive or act.

Each human being creates his or her own reality. It takes less than a second to change the whole perspective of the world. For instance, a person can easily fall into depression only with thinking how miserable they are even if it is not like that. A person can destroy his or her morale only with their thoughts. This is because we create our own truth. If we think negatively, our outcomes are negative, but if we think positively we feel powerful and are able to deal with any circumstances.

Thoughts are influential and can take control of our reality, because what we think is what we get.

Thoughts rule our emotions, behavior and performance in life. It is like a cycle, I see, I perceive, I think, I certainly start feeling a good or bad sensation. We are built from emotions, and emotions are ruled by our thoughts. We can choose how we want to feel about something of which we are conscious. By using our thoughts to refine and guide our emotions we are maximizing our human potential. We are not completely aware of how specialized is our brain and if just for moments we took total control of our thoughts we could do great things with us as relieving a pain, relaxing from a stress crisis, and even quitting an addiction such as tobacco. It is all about control; control is about thoughts, it is impossible to establish a kind of control without them, because this gives us the will to do things. So what are you thinking now?

Lexis Nexis

By Anne Marie Delaney

AMULAC’s Hearin Library recently added LexisNexis to its list of electronic resources. LexisNexis is an online database that according to its website (http://www.lexisnexis.com/about-us/default.aspx) provides “access to five billion searchable documents from more than 40,000 legal, news, and business sources.”

Mrs. Elizabeth Garcia, AMULAC’s Director of Library Services, worked with the library staff at AMU to bring LexisNexis to the AMULAC community. Mrs. Garcia hopes “that students accept the challenge of using this great resource!” Currently, students and faculty can access LexisNexis is from on-campus locations and AMULAC Library Services is working to offer remote access in the future.

With this new resource, AMULAC students and faculty can search, read, download, and print a wide variety of documents found in various databases. LexisNexis databases include, among others, cases and statutes of all state and federal jurisdictions in the United States, articles published in law reviews and journals, international treaties, and rulings from international tribunals in addition to various business and news resources.

In the beginning of September, a workshop was offered to students currently enrolled in law-related courses at AMULAC. The workshop provided general information on how to access the LexisNexis databases and how to conduct searches so students can obtain relevant and quality sources for assignments and research papers. According to David Leyton, a student in the International Relations and Politics (IRP) Department at AMULAC, “Through LexisNexis, I’ve been able to find various works and papers that have been of great help in my IRP courses including International Law and Theory of International Relations.”

To enter the LexisNexis site, ‘click’ on the Hearin Library tab on the AMULAC homepage. Next, ‘click’ on the Electronic Resources tab. Finally, ‘click’ on “LexisNexis Academic” from the list of named resources. If you have questions about using LexisNexis, please contact the Hearin Library staff who is available to give assistance.
New SGA

By Ochy Montoya

A new fall semester starts with a whole new SGA team characterized for having new faces in turn and new ideas. It would be a good question to ask, “what they would like to change and how they plan to do so”. They all came from different campaigns and promised a lot of things, now one wonders how they will make all these plans come true. The most recent change was creating a new position of Project Manager, given to Senior Katia Perez. Also, they had come up with the great initiative of creating committees so the students could express their concerns, as an attempt to improve things around campus. One of these is the Sports Committee, which is trying to promote the school spirit. SGA’s main goal is to break the ice between the student body and administration. The purpose is for students to be given a voice to make their opinions known to modify and improve things they do not like around their educational environment. This year’s SGA may not have the experience of past SGA members, but they certainly have the creativity, the commitment and the ambition it takes to see them through.
On October 22nd Ave Maria gave one step forward in today’s Educational sphere. Two years ago, Ave Maria University began the process in order to be accredited by the CNU (Consejo Nacional de Universidades). This National entity coordinates and evaluates the educational processes of universities and higher educational centers in Nicaragua. This Accreditation grants us the opportunity to be competitive in the realm of higher education. By being accredited by CNU Ave Maria graduates will be able to ensure their Ave Maria Degree’s recognition for their Graduate studies in universities of Europe, South and Central America, Asia, as well as some universities in the United States. This is an important tool in today’s competitive Graduate studies pursuit. The accreditation process was time consuming and required of massive efforts of lobbying and counseling from Ave Maria’s Institutional Effectiveness Department. The effort paid off and today two years after the process began, no other foreign American university is recognized by both national and U.S. accreditation policies. It is this characteristic what in accordance to Mr. Patrick Warner, director of the Institutional Effectiveness Department, stated that this accreditation “shows how unique we are.” Ave Maria also enjoys accreditation by the American Academy for Liberal Education (AALE), a status achieved in the summer of 2008. AALE is a national accreditation agency for undergraduate liberal arts institutions and programs. The Newspaper staff congratulates the Ave Maria community for such an important step, and encourages students to keep up to date with our school’s success and recognitions, as well as to continue working towards the positive development of our educational community.

By María José Hernández
World Cup Qualifications: The Fall of the Great and the Rise of the Underdogs

By Javier Pinto

South Africa 2010 World Cup is coming soon, and the qualifications defining the 32 best teams in the world are almost coming to an end. All soccer fans might be enthusiastic about watching Cristiano Ronaldo or Lionel Messi at the World Cup doing the “bicicleta” or “la culebrita macheteada”. But it results that these players may be out from this competition. David defeated Goliath in ancient Hebrew history, and apparently ladies and gentlemen this story is making a déjàvù in the present world of soccer. Unknown national teams, the little, the ever-present underdogs, and specially the developing countries’ new generations of soccer teams are taking a share in the greatest soccer event worldwide.

In the American Continent, some surprises had come to the scene. Central America had experienced ups and downs during these qualifications. Indisputably, the United States has the first place, and Mexico follows in second. Nevertheless, the first surprise comes behind these two, “la H”, the Honduran National soccer team. It has 13 points, and with only three more points it has its ticket for South Africa 2010.

A national team that is not liked by most Central Americans is the Mexican soccer team. It is ranking 2nd in the qualification, even though most of the people think it is not fair. Mexico has lost against weak nations like El Salvador, a nation that a Mexican sports narrator (whose name is not worth saying) called nonexistent and 4th-world country, a term that does not exist. As a matter of fact, El Salvador is so nonexistent that it has not lost by more than one goal in all the qualification phase. Mexico has received even 3 goals in one single match, again, against another “nonexistent team” – Honduras.

On the other hand, South America is another region experiencing drastic positions. After its last crisis some years ago, Brazil is now glued on the first position of the group, followed by Paraguay, another revelation. We are used to see Brazil and Argentina together fighting for the first place, but this time, Argentina might be disputing the extra game in order to get a ticket for World Cup 2010. It is ranking 5th in the overall table, and it has been a great disappointment the last matches. It has lost by great scores against Bolivia (6-1) and it does not seem to get back on track under the command of Mr. Maradona. Moreover, Colombia and Peru are two nations well known by their World Cup Participation. But this time, they are already out from the competition, ranking 7th and last positions, respectively.

In Europe, things may look difficult for great teams like Portugal, Scotland, Czech Republic, and Belgium to qualify into this main event of soccer. All of these teams have had great historic participations in international competitions, and this time, they are being left behind by some underdog teams in Europe. The great surprises, Slovakia and Slovenia, are now on the verge of qualifying to South Africa, leaving behind the well-known Czech Republic with players like Milan Baros and Pavel Nedved, a great international figure of soccer.

This should be no surprise for us. We should think this is also a process of development these countries are experiencing. Great countries could not be invincible forever, and these little countries are doing the best in order to be more visible worldwide. Even the Great Roman Empire fell, and this time, countries like Honduras, El Salvador, and Slovakia are giving an important demonstration that history or prepotency does not play a role in soccer. It is a matter of love and pride of wearing a shirt representing the country that witnessed your birth; this feeling is the most important when the 90 minutes of the most beautiful sport in the world begin.

*Editor’s Note: By the time our first issue is printed we are glad to congratulate the Honduran Community for their qualification to the 2010 South African world Cup, and we continue to encourage all to continue demonstrating their passion and love for their team’s successes.*
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En el año 2005 se conmemoró el cincuenta aniversario de la muerte de uno de los genios más grandes que ha tenido la humanidad, Albert Einstein (1879 – 1955). De descendencia judía y nacido en Alemania. En Ulm hizo sus estudios técnicos en el Instituto Federal de Tecnología de Zurich. Desde 1902 a 1909, trabajó en la oficina de patentes de Berna y se doctoró en 1905, hace cien años en la Universidad de Zurich.

Se opuso al nazismo por sus posiciones liberales y por ser de origen hebreo, fue desposeído de su cátedra y de su ciudadanía. Residió en la Universidad de Princeton (USA) desde 1945. En 1921 ganó el premio Nóbel de Física por sus investigaciones sobre la teoría de la relatividad. Y fue en 1907 cuando estableció su famosa ecuación entre energía y masa: E = mc^2.

Por otro lado, la relatividad del tiempo se puede entender con el siguiente ejemplo: supongamos que en el Sol aparecen unas nuevas manchas solares que las descubre un astrónomo con su potente telescopio. El tiempo siempre supone un “antes” y un “después”.

Editor’s Note:
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I have freely chosen the way of love, nobody imposed it to me. In that choice, I have found steady joy and peace of heart and mind.” (Nubia)
Before I started writing this column, I had envisioned investigating a topic relevant at school. For the last couple of weeks I looked upon to understand why students were so afraid to talk about the English proficiency exam and why faculty and staff repeatedly emphasized the importance of it.

“English proficiency nightmare,” I thought to myself as I took a look around campus a couple of weeks ago. I imagined how pencils ticked frantically at the desks at the cultural center. How three yellow pages sat in front of students. How these same students waited with uncertainty, searching the correct words to express themselves.

In the midst of all this commotion I found vague answers and more questions. Both students and faculty seemed to disagree in regards to this topic, but the most worrying factor to me, as a new student, was the confrontation such a topic emanated from both sides.

What started as innocent questions developed into a series of uncertainties that benefited neither of the two confronting sides? To the benefit of full disclosure, as this article developed, I found myself doubting, thinking if challenging such a topic was a good idea? But as I was ready to lure myself into the sea of uncertainty and perhaps even fear, I realized that the important topic to discuss was not why students did or didn’t do an exam or why they had trouble being able to pass it? On the contrary, it was necessary to have a positive voice in a topic that affects everyone at Ave Maria, and from which we all can learn and have benefits from.

It is important to be responsible in the decisions we make as a student body as well as to let our authorities know how they can help us to improve such deficiencies and be better students. It is important to not let until the last minute this test. It is crucial to once have taken your four basic English courses to make an attempt at the English proficiency exam. Only through constant practice and a good reading habit may the student develop better writing and analytical skills.

Just as the students need to take responsibility in accordance to their classes, school authorities need to ensure new ways to motivate the student body and emphasize the importance of the English proficiency Exam, and for this reason I believe the following recommendations could be taken into consideration:

- Develop a pre-English proficiency study group with the help of faculty, administration or the learning center. Such a study group could refresh the memory of those students who are a little rusty in their essay skills.
- Provide exam labs to recreate practice test environment.
- Emphasize the importance of the English Proficiency Exam among the Student Body.

I imagine how amazing it could be to have someone to talk to all the time, someone that might give you guidance in time of unrest, a person you can come up to ask a small opinion about something that is bothering you. You might say: “That’s what friends are for”… But most of our friends are our same age and might be more lost than us. What do we do then? Mr. Heir came up with a great idea: The Mentoring/Guardian Angel Program.

This program started in October this year and has proved to be efficient and useful. We went to interview people that are part of the program and this is what we found out:

Damaris Umanzor from El Salvador told us that her guardian angel: “Is someone that I trust and I would look for to ask an advice from. My guardian angel helped me a lot during my first week in school. I would say it’s the best thing that has happened to me.”

Then we looked for one of these guardian angels and we found Montserrat Ruano who told us in her own words, that her experience as a Guardian Angel was “gratifying, even though it entails a great responsibility. You get to know many freshmen in this process, and get to share with them, and try to help them as much as you can.” At the same time, Guardian Angels have mentors who are faculty or staff members willing to share their wisdom and experience with students.

As we can see there is a big chain of love, prayer, and sharing that will help all the members of this program in their life and it will develop healthy friendships. Thank you mentors and angels!

In loving memory of our dear Daryn & Gregorio

This sudden goodbye left so many questions in our hearts. We wondered why. We could not see it… But we woke up one day and realized that you are still there in the powerful light of the sun.

You are here in the smiles of your friends, in the tears of those who do not want to let you go, in the everlasting hope of seeing you again, in the persistent calling to love others today as if we were to die tomorrow…

We have only started to see it, but we still wonder WHY somebody has to die to teach us how to live!

By Nubia Granja
he name suits the charm of its whole concept; a bistro. Have you been? Do not worry; I'll awaken your curiosity. There should be no doubt in your mind that Bistro Layha is a must on your list of restaurant pursuit.

The experience begins as you enter a path adorned by vegetation and lights that glow in the surroundings, to be greeted with a kind smile as you wait to be seated at your convenience. The tables previously set up with a center piece welcome your visit. A soothing sound environs, accompanied by the music, both agreeable to the senses and the conversation. Immediately, as you finish getting comfortable in your seat, a waiter greets you, passes the menu, and pours water into your glass. A basket with a small linen napkin is beautifully served, in it, a variety of homemade hard and soft dinner rolls.

The menu seems uninterestingly simple, and misses a detailed description. Nonetheless, there is always someone ready to assist you in choosing the appropriate dish for your appetite with a clear explanation of each item. As for the uninteresting menu I mentioned, let’s say, “You cannot judge a book by its cover,” there is nothing simple about its content. Fusion cuisine, thank God! You may chose from a multiplicity of flavors and textures. Every piece is flawlessly cooked with care, characteristic of a cook who loves food.

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The menu seems uninterestingly simple, and misses a detailed description. Nonetheless, there is always someone ready to assist you in choosing the appropriate dish for your appetite with a clear explanation of each item. As for the uninteresting menu I mentioned, let’s say, “You cannot judge a book by its cover,” there is nothing simple about its content. Fusion cuisine, thank God! You may chose amongst a multiplicity of flavors and textures. Every piece is flawlessly cooked with care, characteristic of a cook who loves food.

You may chose from a crisp breaded eggplant appetizer, over fresh concassé tomato sauce, to pumpkin filled spinach raviolis and more. For beef lovers I recommend the fork tender filete Marissa, a
must! For the prefers of pork, the Cerdo Estilo Oriental; delightfully seasoned slices of pork au jus served over saffron rice and Chinese lettuce, a wonderful combination uncommon to the local notion. Furthermore, the seafood delights! My last experience involved a mildly rosemary seasoned red snapper, served over a bed of deliciously flavored vegetables cut macédoine. I sampled this last weekend, and it was marvelous.

They have a lounge! Yes, a more relaxed environment where you can eat and take pleasure in many different cocktails, I tried the Cosmo... I had to have another. I've heard of eventful nights to be offered such as acoustic nights, open microphone and live music events I’ll make sure not to miss.

Have I forgotten to mention that this is a family managed business? What’s not to love? Everything is neatly presented. The attention to detail is immediately noticeable, and greatly appreciated. There is an array of options for every person, occasion, and most importantly for every pocket. Their prices range from C$100 to little over C$200. They are open Thursdays-Sundays from 1:00 p.m. till late at night.

Bistro Layha will doubtfully be kept low profile for much long. Remember when evaluating restaurants it’s not only the food, it’s about the whole experience, and this one has all the details in place that make justice to its name.

By Alejandra Borge
A.A. in Culinary Arts
Johnson and Wales University
My Experience in Naples

By Jim Davila

Perhaps some of you know me, but there are many do not know me, my name is Jim Davila and I am 18 years old. This is my sophomore year at Ave Maria University where I am majoring in International Relations and Political Science. Last semester, I had the great opportunity of spending a semester at Naples through the Study Abroad Program.

The Study Abroad Program granted me a unique experience. At the beginning, I felt a little bit weird since the social and cultural environment I was born into was very different than what I was about to experience. However, two weeks after my arrival I got used to it and everything was totally different for me. I have to clarify although, that when I say different, it does not mean that everything was beautiful. On the contrary, I lived some awkward moments. For instance, I remember once when some friends and I went to a party, my ‘dear’ friends were so ‘happy’ that when the party ended they forgot about me and left me there. Thanks God, someone else from Ave Maria that I knew, gave me a ride.

Definitely, not everything was bad when I stayed at Naples. My friends and I used to go to the mall, to the beach, and to the restaurants almost every weekend. I truly can say that I had so much fun in Naples that I did not even want to return to Nicaragua. Before I left the United States at the end of spring 2009, I made more friends with which I spent thirteen days in a retreat at the Grand Canyon, in Arizona. We became good friends to the point that they invited me to go with them to Spain during summer. I decided to accompany them the whole summer. Once there, we went to visit many cities all over Spain, we also went to Portugal and France. I never expected I would be able to start such great friendships, but our friendship and expedition did not finish in Naples, but it continued in Europe. All these good moments that I lived in Naples and Europe were a little gift from Our Lady. Good memories are what I keep in my mind and I will never forget.

I really encourage you all to apply to go to Naples since you do not know what God has prepared for you in this great trip. By the way, before I finish this article, I just want you to know that some of my dear friends from Spain are in Nicaragua, in case you want to meet them.
**Improve Your Business English: Improve Your Career Prospects**

*By Gabriel Areas*

The Ave Maria Language Institute is pleased to announce the launching of Global English Corporate Learning Service in blended mode with our English for Professional Development Program (EPD).

In our aim to improve our business language program, we have decided to incorporate cutting edge technology into our teaching. In a blended learning environment, students and instructors combine traditional learning with computer mediated instruction.

Global English supplies students with the latest resources to learn English either at work, school or home. Thus, students are the main driver of their own learning. There are some fantastic features, such as Talk with the Teacher, Text-to-Speech and Business Skills Courses, which provide state-of-the-art tools and real-time support. Additionally, our language instructors offer coaching and monitoring to students who attend classes by fully integrating their classroom lessons with Global English.

By Gabriel Areas

Career Services, Empowering and Promoting Leaders

*By Margine V. Leiva*  
*Career Services Director*

Ave Maria University, Latin American Campus has always believed in Empowerment, giving the right tools to our students to enter successfully the labor market.

The Career Services office assists students to reach their academic and professional goals. Even though, a new series of external shocks is threatening the region and the unemployment rate has increased we keep working hard to reach our goals. This year we celebrated our Ninth Annual Job Fair, where companies such as INCAE Business School, Banpro, Unilever, KPMG, Excel Automotriz and many other multinationals interviewed our students and graduates. This was an outstanding opportunity to meet top employers face to face.

As part of the training that we provide to our students to successfully enter the labor market; we have scheduled three workshops for this semester. Students are encouraged to participate in these training sessions to be able to write an effective resume and get ready for professional and effective job interviews. We are blessed for having a highly motivated and enthusiastic senior class. We will keep working hard to reach every goal; guided by our outstanding faculty and our Holy Mother Mary.
27 Seconds Worth of Freewriting

Since when an obsession is a two-door way out?
Perhaps this is the last scrap of sanity within my insanity,
A hopeless hope of hoping a surrealist charity,
Yearning for damnation to become salvation,
Is it too late to become your last minute version?
But I snap out of it.

Such a waste...
You’re such a waste...
Since when are we tearing ourselves apart?
Is this a subliminal hit?
You don’t even understand...
But I hope you don’t mind,
I’ll take this while I can,
Forever obsessed, forever possessed,
And forever contradicting.

Putrefaction of the soul caused by reckless emotions,
Forever condemning without proper cushions,
To the toughest of questions,
The simplest of answers,
Ignorance is a blessing, in case you didn’t know.

Fogged memories blur my vision,
Are you still with me?
Wait!
But who were you before I met you?
Your explanations become my expectations,
My expectations become your exploitations,
Your exploitations become my expiations,
And then we walk away...

Is it 9:27 yet?
Oh, excuse me, I have to leave,
I have an important meeting with my dreams,
It was nice talking to you,
Let’s meet again at 9:28.

We could perhaps rewind to a couple of years before,
For the barrier of time has died today,
Do you remember love?
What a curious emotion it was!
But ignorance is a blessing, in case you didn’t know.

FURIA

Has provocado en mi
una tormenta enojada!
una lagrima triste,
un suspiro cautivo.

Decime que furia es ésta;
Explicame que duda ha
nacido,
para despues estrellarme
en el muro de la insensatez
de tu alegría...

Has creado un espíritu
enamorado
de la vida,
ahora no le quites el pan
para seguir creyendo,
seguir volando,
persiguiendo sueños

No calles mi palabra
ahora que la tengo,
ni mi virtud
ahora que ha renacido;
No pares esa naturaleza
indomable,
no ensucies el blanco de mi
libertad

Creeme lo que ahora digo!
No se lo que fui contigo
ni lo que sera sin ti,
p ero se lo que quiero hoy
ahora que tu ala no me
protej e,
ni tus ojos me vigilan

Dejá que vengan los días
y adornen tu existencia
Tan solo permiti abrir los ojos
y mirar mas colores.
No me apagues, ni vos te lo
hagas;
Dejá que aquellos busquen lo
imposible..
Tan solo creeme lo que ahora
digo.

Tu boca habla sin cadenas,
tus pies corren a la aventura,
No tienes miedo acaso de
aquellos horizontes?

No quiero tu palabra me
encarcele,
esta fuerza que hay en mi no
me detendrá.
No calles mi palabra ahora
que la tengo
ni mi virtud ahora que ha
renacido.

Carlos Guardado

Raquel Hanon
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