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Region IV-A CALABARZON to the Palarong Pambansa 2017

San Jose, Antique

April 24, 2017



| You have to build something. It's not all physical. It's also mental and the desire to win.

- Pres. Rodrigo Roa Duterte

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President Duterte speaks during the opening of the 2017 Palarong Pambansa in Binirayan Sports Complex, San Jose, Antique, April 23.



## 2017 Palarong Pambansa

# Pres. Duterte urges student-athletes to develop sense of patriotism

Text: Patrick Kenneth T. Coquilla, Trece Martires City NHS

Photo: Ferdinand P. Castro, Palanas ES

**In front of more than 12,000 delegates, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte has challenged the young athletes to instill love of country as he formally declared the 2017 Palarong Pambansa open on Sunday in a colorful opening ceremonies.**

In his speech at the newly-renovated Binirayan Sports Complex, Duterte said the youth needs to develop love of country and instill discipline for they would inherit the country from their elders.

"You now have a sense of discipline... You have to build something. It's not all physical. It's also mental and the desire to win," the President said.

He added that the young generations need also to develop a sense of responsibility.

"You are the fathers and mothers of tomorrow. That tomorrow is just a few sunrise and sunset. It's just around the corner. I need to pass it on to you before I die," he added as he stressed that the youth needs to take the obligations in the future.

He even noted that his administration

is investing heavily on the youth, particularly on education, so that they can become competitive.

"The Department of Education gets the lion's share in this year's budget, something that the state is required to do under the 1987 Constitution," said Duterte.

He also stressed that there is a great call for the new generation to build competitiveness, fairness, values and sense of goodwill among the youth.

"It's my sacred duty to transfer to you the values we hold very dear," said the President.

Meanwhile, Education Secretary Leonor Magtolis-Briones showed great hopes that the Palaro will encourage more K to 12 completers to take Sports Track in Senior High School, noting that only 3,175 out of 1.5

million students take the track in the new curriculum.

"It means that sports track is not attracting students such that we are encouraging the parents, as well as students, to take the track which is good track to help them gain employment," said Magtolis-Briones in a news report.

"Mas marami ang tsansa for them na makakuha ng employment after graduation while also giving back to the country," the secretary added.

Magtolis-Briones with the Regional Directors from 18 regions ended the program with the release of friendship doves declaring the formal opening.

This year's Palaro is the 60th edition of the annual multi-sporting event for Filipino student-athletes with the country's 18 regions competing in different sporting events and discipline.

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# Winner

## by Heart and Soul

**Text: Evelyn P. Navia, Plaridel Integrated NHS**

### Find your place and do your task.

The name of the game of Region IV A during this 2017 Palarong Pambansa banners so high whenever they have their meal time for it is where the athletes, coaches and officials line up to a particular side of the buffet table in order to eat an essential menu for the day, it is where they go to a particular place to put their soiled dishes and do the required waste segregation, and it is where the athletes do their group Saludo as to deliver their appreciation due to an extended effort of making their stomach full with the wanted affection.

Certainly, it is not only sports that the whole delegation wanted to talk about but it also concerns values that all of us need most. Discipline, orderliness, perseverance, respect, obedience, diligence, sympathy, creativity, resourcefulness, and appreciation are just few of which that are obvious inside the CALABARZON's mess hall. The artistry behind the displays, the inspiration of the several sections of the hall and the messages being expressed by each posted material are truly expressive of those values relevant for an athlete and the whole delegation to bear and live with.

Anyone in the region then can learn best after this national meet because a standard of developing skills together with brain and attitude is present that even with or without a medal, someone has his deserved recognition and that is his being holistically developed as a person.

## Elem defenders open Game 1 in Football Elims

*finish austere 3-0 loss against lofty, veteran Region XI*

**Text:** Arlene D. Dela Costa,

Tanza National Comprehensive HS

**Photo:** Patrick Kenneth T. Coquilla

Trece Martires City NHS

### SAN JOSE, Antique—Height and Age indisputably matter.

It was not a day for CALABARZON kickers as they failed to bring the house down after their clash against towering and older rival Region XI—defending champion from Davao City—ending a 3-0 defeat in 2017 Palarong Pambansa, Football Elementary held in St. Anthony College Ground on Saturday.

The Red-Hot elementary kickers exhibited a strong ball possession after executing a series of goal attempts at the final half as Joshua Villanueva, Yñigo Dionela, and Rafael Arcega fired goal attempt on the 10th, 13th and 18th minute of the game respectively.

"Ang saya saya ko talaga nung akala ko po eh counted yung goal ko, eh hindi naman po pala. Talagang



nahirapan po kami kasi ang lalaki ng katawan ng Davao tapos po ang tatangkad pa," Julian Gabriel Cuenca shared his account on the game during the interview.

CALABARZON squad was awarded direct free kick from opponent's foul then Cuenca posted a goal but the referee declared that it was in an offside position.

"Alam ko na kaya nila ipanalo ang game. Naumpisahan lang talaga sila ng Davao. Considering this is Game 1 and I believe they can make

it to the final. Pray lang palagi and continue believing in themselves," said coach Eleanor Ermitanio .

Dionela and Arvega, on the other hand, were unsuccessful to guard their offense and defense department as they misspent chance to goal after missing a series of open spot throughout the game.

"Mas gagalingan po naming yung next game, tsaka siguro po kinulang lang po kami sa communication," Cuenca concluded after the game.

# Palarong Pembansa 2017: Opening Parade

Photos: Ferdinand P Castro, Palanas ES | John Derick M. Sanchez, Division of Laguna  
Marlon T. Bedua, Amadeo NHS | Patrick Kenneth T. Coquilla Trece Martires City NHS

Text: Ma. Joan Paula D. Dino



The Palarong Pembansa Opening was a sight to behold. Marching in their red and white Regional uniforms, CALABARZON together with other 17 regions from all over the country troop down the city host's street. Special guests like President Rodrigo Duterte, Senator Loren Legarda, and DepEd Secretary Leonor Briones graced the event to formally express their thanks and appreciation to the regional delegates. Athletes showcased their talents and their region's brand. It was truly a glimpse of the world of sport, a mixture of fun and discipline.





# Erika Joy Antero: The girl who wrangles and wrestles

Text and photo by Arlene D. Dela Costa, Tanza National Comprehensive HS

**SIBALOM, Antique**—Fifteen-year-old Erika Joy Antenero told once to herself that she will become a badminton superstar.

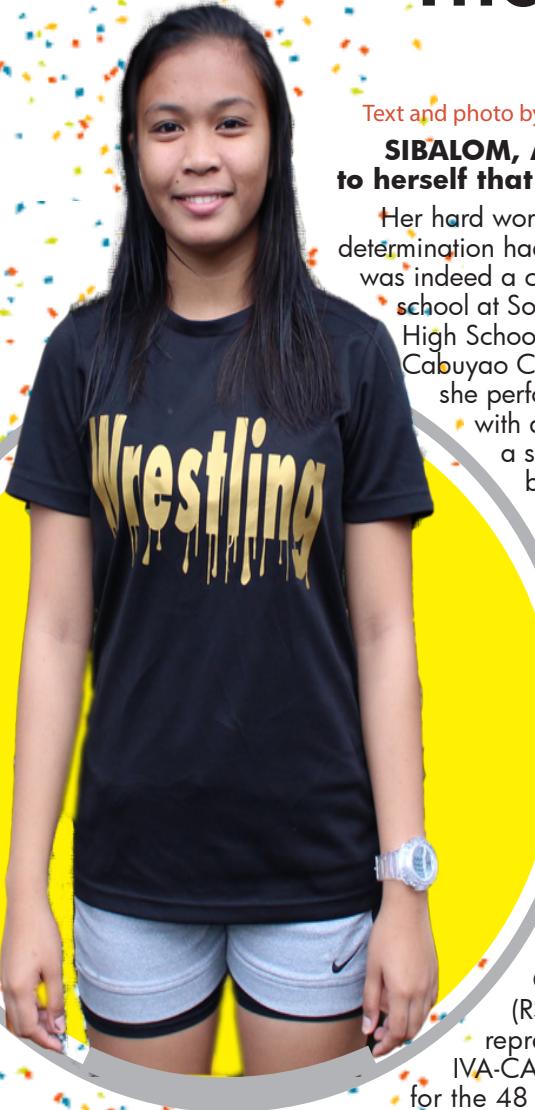
Her hard work and determination had paid off as she was indeed a celebrity in her school at Southville I National High School (SNHS) in Cabuyao City. Nevertheless, she performed neither with a rackets nor a shuttlecock but grappled, sparred, and wrestled to crush her opponent. Erika Joy, at present, is a wrestler.

The Division of Cabuyao pride won gold medal in the recently Regional Sports Competitions (RSC) and will represent Region IVA-CALABARZON for the 48 kg Wrestling Women's Secondary in 2017 Palarong Pambansa.

Erika started her fascinating journey in wrestling when she was in Grade 7. She was discovered by her teacher and invited to try out for the game. The eldest of Antenero family has learned to love the sports and worked overtime to attain her dream.

*I aim for the gold,  
it's all the players'  
goal,  
I think*

- Erika Joy Antenero  
Southville I National High School  
Cabuyao, Laguna



**FRIENDLY TALK.**  
Wearing a big smile, Erika Joy Antenero (center) chat with her co-wrestler in the billeting area.

"Hindi ko po makakalimutan yung unang sali ko sa national event kasi po champion po agad ako," Erika said cheerfully.

After a year of rigid and rigorous training, Erika won her first gold medal on national competition in Women's Martial Arts (WMA) held at Mall of Asia (MOA) in 2015.

The Grade 9 student-athlete had hardly imagined that her journey in wrestling will take her on center stage. Propitiously, she earned successive gold and silver medals from 2015 to 2016 in mostly prestigious events—National Open in Rizal; Batang Pinoy in Cebu, Tagum City and Davao; Universal Reality Combat Championship (URCC).

"Palagi kong sinasabi kay Erika na kahit pagod na ang katawan dapat laging alerto ang utak. Ika nga po eh mind over matter lang yan," said coach Trisha C. Bartolome during interview, Grade and 10 MAPEH Teacher in SNHS.

Bartolome is also a combatant and a member of a wrestling team in the country.

"Lagi ko sya minomotivate. Sabi ko sa kanya parepareho lang naman ang kinakain natin, kung ano naman yung kinakain ng kalaban yun din naman ang kinakain mo. So, walang dahilan para matakot," Bartolome added.

According to Bartolome, remarkable improvement was very noticeable on Erika from the first day of their training up to the present.

"Alam ko na hindi madali ang wrestling pero gagawin ko ang best ko hindi lang para sa sarili kundi para rin sa Region," Erika concluded.

Erika probably has failed as a badminton star but she has found her true passion—a wrestler with 'authentic' flying colours.

# A Night with Secretary Leonor Briones

Photos by: Marlon T. Bedua, Amadeo NHS and Ferdinand P Castro, Palanas ES

Text: Arlene D. Dela Costa, Tanza National Comprehensive HS

**"We are all here because of the tradition of cooperation. We come to give support for the athletes. Palarong Pambansa is more than just sports. It is not about winning but how you win the game," said Education Secretary Leonor M. Briones — wearing a red gowned adorned in silver — addressing her message for 2017 Palarong Pambansa Delegates at Governor's Night held in EBJ Freedom Park on Saturday.**





CALABARZON defender tries to steal a ball possession against Western Visayas.



## CALABARZON kickers battle Western Visayas in Bracket C

*Conclude 2-1 rout in Eliminations*

Text: Arlene D. Dela Costa, Tanza National Comprehensive HS  
Photo: Patrick Kenneth T. Coquilla, Trece Martires City NHS

**SAN JOSE, Antique—CALABARZON soccerites squad fell short on Saturday to conquer tough rival Western Visayas (WVRAA) kickers team as they went home on doleful stand after concluding a 2-1 loss in 2017 Palarong Pambansa, Secondary Football Category held at Binirayan Sports Complex.**

Mariano Suba fired a behind schedule goal on the 33rd minute of the second half as he faked a hit to execute a sharp change of direction and headed straight to the goal post after the team was awarded a free kick from a foul committed by Arlo Salvacion of Western Visayas.

"Matindi po talaga ang opensa at depensa nila [Western Visayas Team]. Ginawa naman po namin ang lahat but Visayas is really one of our tough opponents in Palaro," said Suba after the game.

Both teams broke out strong from the defensive and offensive stance but WVRAA hero Jarlson Roy Derutas found an opportunity to perform a shot and create a stunning twin goal

at the 25th minute of the first half and 17th minute of the second half.

"Nahirapan po kami sa depensa. Naging maganda rin lang po siguro yung communication namin sa field kaya po nanalo kami. Malakas po ang CALABARZON at mahirap po sila lusutan," Derutas said excitedly.

Western Visayas early party was completed by Arlo Salvacion and Abrielle Belgira as they made an impregnable defense to perform excellent passes toward Derutas.

"It was an even fight. They [CALABARZON] fought well for this game. This is just a lucky break for us," said WVRAA coach Domingo A. Subo during the interview.

CALABARZON was in a state

of strain when one of the handpicked players suffered an injury then followed a series of substitutions at the final half respectively.

Christian Gonzales and Renan Roxas, on the other hand, squandered opportunity to goal that instant during the 9th and 10th minute at the final half respectively on the attacking posture after wasting an open spot to goal with just few meters away and losing their chance to score.

"They performed very well. I just want to establish the same confidence for our next game. They were able to give a score and I am happy. This is just the beginning of our battle and we'll fight for the glory of our region," said coach Kristine Rodriguez.