



wildcard

volume 1 issue 1

hypertext media

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from the editorial desk

Greetings!

After the hiatus of the creation of our organization's "official" newsletter, our efforts have finally succeeded in resurrecting, wait for it... Wildcard! For those of you who may not exactly know exactly what on earth Wildcard is, in a nutshell, it is where our fellow organization members bring the latest and relevant events, trends and whatnot concerning not only the IT world to our beloved peers and orgmates.

For our first re-issue, the team has chosen a very current and widespread theme: hypertext/media. Why? Everyone - or at least almost everyone, is well acquainted with hypertext/media - though perhaps not everyone is aware they are surrounded by it day in and out, 24/7. Anything from blogging to social networks to online shopping and even online gaming is part of this! So we encourage you to take time and see what's in store for you in this issue.

The Team would also like to thank everyone who has contributed their time, blood, sweat and tears in the making of our first re-issue. It would have never been possible without you guys. Hope to see the same and perhaps an even more energized participation for our second issue.

Of course, we would also like to thank you, our readers. This is really for you guys. Comments and suggestions are very much appreciated. We would love to know what you guys want to hear about. Or, if you have a great story, feature, article you would like to be included or write about, just email us at wildcard@compsat.org.

We really hope you enjoy! And we hope and invite more of our beloved members to be part of our team! Take part and help the organization reach greater heights. We are still definitely GOING UP!

The Wildcard Team

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the president's address

Hello CompSAT members and alumni!

Greetings from the bottom of my heart!

Oh, how the semester has gone by! The past 5 months have truly been a whirlwind of various occurrences—from the A(H1N1) pandemic, to Typhoons Ondoy and Pepeng, and even to the Blue Eagles' back-to-back championship. Not to be forgotten, however, is how various developments in the Web and the social networking realm played a significant role in these events. Whether it be plurking or tweeting about the UAAP results, reading quickly updated news about how many people have already contracted the virus, looking for volunteers or lost people through Facebook, or posting videos of the Katipunan condition on Youtube, I am pretty sure that you have used your online accounts for such purposes in one way or another.

What impresses me most is that we were able to utilize what used to be merely objects for stalking or alleviating boredom in a way that we have exemplified how it is to be an Atenean through celebrating with the community and building the nation.

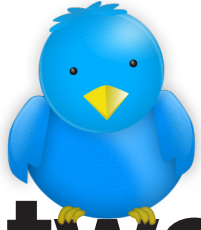
On another note, being in the organization for the first semester has also been much like a rollercoaster ride. For the past five months, I've been waking up each day finding out something new or witnessing unexpected events in the organization. We've had a newly structured General Assembly, a successful Installfest, the persisting Varsity Programming Training, interesting IT Forums and Seminars, a food- and fun-filled Tambay Week, helpful

CS21A tutorials, a flourishing Geek Shirt Clearance Sale, an innovative Collaborative Programming Workshop, an exciting ROFL and the very enriching and educational ExIT Camp. All those may probably sound crazy but as expected from a theme park fan like me, I ended up loving the first semester ride and longing for more.

A new semester is to come and I have no other sentiment but the desire to share the experience of this crazy rollercoaster ride with you. Your officers are all pumped up and ready for the second wave of CompSAT this school year and we truly hope that we could see the members participating more in our various events and inviting your friends along the way, and the alumni getting involved through the coming Loopback and if possible, providing us with financial and moral support.

Have a pleasant sembreak everyone! It was an awesome first semester but I hope that we're all looking forward to what will come next!

Melody Kay Carolino
President



tweeting report

sites you soon could not live without

by Tiff Kang

It's the year 2009 and we're three quarters on our way to the end of a possibly fantastic year. What have you learned about the internet since then besides plurking and twittering your latest web finds on Digg/Cracked, or playing the latest Facebook game? (Oh, I need some noodles and tomatoes, is anyone willing to trade theirs for coffee beans?) You've discovered new sites, alright, but let me tell you my friends that the internet is still a vast lair that has a lot left to be explored and some caves are more worthy of spelunking for gold than others!

I present to you some sites that are worth more than a penny for your thoughts but cost you nothing for startup. "Free" is the keyword most of us find and these sites definitely offer that. Those sites that you were addicted to before may need to take a backseat and make way for these new innovative sites!

ANIMOTO

You find yourself lacking hard drive space to install *Adobe Premiere* or have recently downloaded a corrupt copy of one but you need to do a photo-video presentation for the last minute birthday surprise for your friend. What do you do? Why, visit ANIMOTO of course!

This free service allows you to generate professional slideshows just like a director! Edit the timbre of the voice, add some jazz beat to it and add some professional video effects. As their site says, it's "free, fast and shockingly easy."

PANDORA

Music is arguably sometimes called the universal language but most people do have preferences for their own. Some do not quite like the radio scene where DJs just keep on

playing what the masses dictate as currently popular. One would need a personal station for individuality and creativity. Well, good to know that you can do so, online, at PANDORA.

Pandora is sadly only available to the U.S., but if this service becomes open to the Philippines, this will be a site that music junkies couldn't live without. Best of all, it's free and despite the not-so-limited 40-hour limit per month, (which is already a lot of time), you only get to pay 99 cents for unlimited play for the rest of the month. Enjoy a playlist you create on your own and keep discovering new ones.



GMAIL

Who needs GMAIL when you have Yahoo! Mail is the question most people would ask. Yahoo! Mail is popular here in the Philippines but apparently the

mail client doesn't control the whole e-mail user population. In the competition of e-mail clients, personally, Gmail actually offers the best e-mail interface.

Gmail launched beta on April 1, 2004 and Google had just recently removed its beta tag. The free e-mail service has a conversation view email threads which avoids clusters of emails of the same subject. Updating on Gmail is also very easy as it automatically adds and updates e-mail addresses and names to your contact list. It's a very useful tool for the forgetful ones out there.

SCRIBD

Social networking has evolved/devolved from 1000-word blog posts to 140-character micro-blogs, such as in Twitter, but this doesn't stop the continuous innovation for social sharing. Now besides sharing clumps of thoughts, you could actually share a whole book out in the internet without the need for download or pay.

SCRIBD is a creative site where users upload and share virtually any kind of document in any format to the community. Going to Scribd's homepage, one would immediately be at home with the quick and easy user interface. Presentations, music sheets, newspapers, magazines, resumé you name it, they have it.

TINYCHAT

One of the biggest problems of group reports is the availability of members during the much-needed processing and brainstorming. Usually people are most available at night but transportation and location are problems instead. People resort to chatting but it creates long and tedious text conferences.

Using TINYCHAT eliminates these problems because people would be able to work best at home and users can create chat rooms with multiple users. People can make audio or video chat rooms with ease and only the mic and camera are needed for setup. This free service prevents the hassle of downloading and tedious reading.

TRIPIT

Say what? Triplit? Tripit? Yes it is indeed TRIPIT.

TripIt is specially made for those not only with a huge thirst for adventure but also with

an over-compulsive tendency to be organized. Besides from needing social networking sites to post your pictures, you would need a helper who would help manage all your details including booking tickets, hotels, rental cars, restaurants, maps and weather! This is a master online itinerary that would impress even the most organized-neat-freak out there.

TripIt makes everything so much easier. Safety is also assured as signups are required. But the service is entirely free. Good, frustrated travelers created this site for us likewise good-and-frustrated-with-the-internet travelers.

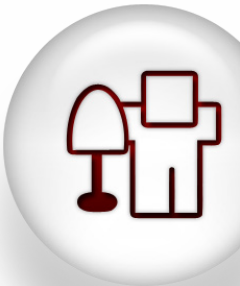
YAMMER

"Yammer" may not sound as good a name to the ears but students have to learn about the powers of the internet in their future workplace.

Sharing information within a private network between companies online is important. YAMMER is a free but secured network for a company's employees. Over 40 thousand companies already avail of the service and you could encourage your future company to sign up for one. Brownie points will go to you and you could maximize productivity within the workplace.

DIGG

This is quite an old site and most of you already know this because of its popularity. But after 5 years since its conception, it is still one of the internet's most popular sites. After all, what DIGG does is promote popularity and advertisements for other sites. Unique visitors still keep coming, millions after millions, each year.



There are so many more but unfortunately this article is only limited to 1200 words and also take note of technology and time. Technology somehow rides a speedboat through the course of time so catching up new updates is necessary. Someday, these sites would make way for new ones that needs to be explored soon.

But for the three quarters of 2009, I give you these sites that you would be addicted to in the future.

So if you liked this article, could you please *digg* it on your way back to cyberspace? XD ☺

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opinions[]

the internet – the product of an evil genius, or a blessing from the high heavens?

by Kim Flores, TC Andallaza,
Charisse Dalida

YEA-SAYERS

“A Click Away” is perhaps the best tagline that one could come up if he was given the chance to promote the internet. This tagline aptly describes the characteristics of the internet: accessible, fast, diverse, cheap, global and entertaining. With just one click you have the information you needed for a research, you have expressed your feeling to your special someone (not only to him but to the whole world as well) and your dream of becoming a restaurant owner finally came true.

The foremost target of the internet has always been communication. And I dare say that the internet has far excelled beyond this expectation. Still, innovations are going on to make communication faster and more reliable. Now we can communicate in a fraction of second with a person sitting in another part of the world. Today, we can send e-mail, chat for hours with our loved ones, and plenty more messenger services being offered. With the help of such services, it has become very easy to establish a kind of global friendship where you can share your thoughts and explore

other cultures.

The internet is a virtual treasure trove of information. Any kind of information on any topic under the sun is available on the internet, with search engines as Google or Yahoo. You can almost find any type of data on almost any kind of subject that you are looking for. There is a huge amount of information available on the internet for just about every subject known to man, ranging from government law and services, trade fairs and conferences, market information, new ideas and technical support, the list is endless.

Students and children are among the top users who surf the internet for research. Today, it is almost required that students should use the internet for research for the purpose of gathering resources. Teachers have started giving assignments that require research on the internet. Almost every coming day, researches on medical issues become much easier to locate. Numerous web sites available on the net are offering loads of information for people to research diseases and talk to doctors online at sites

such as, America's Doctor. During 1998 over 20 million people reported going online to retrieve health information.

Entertainment is another popular reason why many people prefer to surf the internet. In fact, internet media has become quite successful in trapping a multifaceted entertainment factor. Downloading games, visiting chat rooms or just surfing the Web are some of the uses people have discovered. There are numerous games that may be downloaded from the internet for free. The industry of online gaming has tasted dramatic and phenomenal attention by game lovers. Chat rooms are popular because users can meet new and interesting people. In fact, the internet has been successfully used by people to find life long partners. When people surf the Web, there are numerous things that can be found. Music, hobbies, news and more can be found and shared on the internet.

Many services are now provided on the internet such as online banking, job seeking, purchasing tickets for your favourite movies, guidance services on array of topics engulfing the every aspect of life, and hotel reservations. Often these services are not available off-line and can cost you more.

Indeed, the internet is a creation that has helped us move forward and grasp the future.

NAYSAYERS

Ever since the dawn of the distinction between good and evil, there have been many debates as to how people perceive everyday things, most especially how to classify them. Famous examples would involve things like politics – whether it as a means to govern people towards national progress, or a means of manipulation to gain power; another would

be medicine – whether it is to cure the sick, or to feed an addiction. These things we seem to take for granted may actually dictate where humanity as we know it is about to go, and one of the most groundbreaking innovations that still carries this two-faced nature is none other than the internet.

The creation we know as the information superhighway has brought about the advent of many other creations, among which would be online shopping, social networking, electronic messaging, peer-to-peer networking, and much more. People say that it is the next step into the future, and this is very true. We note, however, that just like what were mentioned above can both be constructive and detrimental, the internet is no exception. The internet today may have initiated online shopping, but it has also given rise to the idea of online scamming issues. Social networking is a blessing, yet along with it came online stalkers and other privacy issues. Electronic messaging is not spared as well – bogus advertisements and unwanted messages which we now know as spam messages have become prevalent, and are becoming instruments in virus transmission as well. Finally, peer-to-peer networking sites may have helped people share what they have easily with others, but it has become a haven as well for online pirates who illegitimately distribute software and other media, thereby shutting down original distributors of profit. In essence, the crimes, terrorisms, and other negative problems we have in the real world have now been digitalized, and the internet that we know of is not as safe as it used to be.

Along with the stream of technological advances the human race had achieved for the past decades are unforeseen byproducts

which are slowly tearing down the moral values of our generation as well as altering the beliefs and traditions which have long been preserved and maintained by our ancestor. One such technological progress is in the field of information – the internet. Indeed, the internet has given us a new medium far more advanced than we usually have, but underneath it lays many detrimental effects which many of us simply ignore.

While it is true that the internet provides us with sources of information better than any other, it is also fair to say that some of its information comes from unreliable and unverified sources. Wikipedia, a site frequently used by students, for example, can be edited online by an unscrupulous person who has the intellectual capacity to alter the given information. By doing such action, he had disseminated wrong information to possibly millions of users throughout the world and who knows what harmful effects this erroneous information can do.

The internet presents us with millions of images and videos; in fact it overshadows all known print and visual media combined. Despite its visual diversity, it lacks the restrictive ability to screen or sort out the images and videos it provides. While the internet is a big help for students in their studies particularly in search of pictures for their school assignments, it also poses danger to young students by displaying obscene pictures somewhat related to what he is searching for. On the other hand, entering into porn video websites is easily accessible to unauthorized users. One can easily make lie in the internet on his age by declaring or typing he is above or within the required age. The internet, sad to say, is the biggest

syndicate and source in the proliferation of pornographic pictures and videos not only in our country but in the whole world as well.

The internet has created many changes in the social life of the Filipinos especially in the urban areas. Gone are the days where you can usually see children or young adults along the streets playing the traditional Filipino games such as sipa, patintero, tagu-taguan. Instead, the internet has gobbled up most of the time of our children; they are now often seen hanging around the computer shops playing online computer games. Although computer shops offer a safer haven compared to riskier places where the youth usually hang around, it has also become a place where immorality lurks by way of internet. Addiction to online computer games nowadays is rampant especially among young students that devotion to their studies and relationship to their family is being affected. The usual weekends where these children are supposed to interact, socialize and spend their quality time together with their family had slowly been replaced and taken over by wasting away their time playing online games in the internet.

Given these things, the real question bewildering most people is how things which were created as good turn out to be bad? Well, just like all other things with these two-sided natures, the root of it all is one simple term – abuse. Politics became as dirty as it is now because people abuse their right to power, and thus hinder other people from experiencing the power that they too deserve. Medicine gave rise to illegal drugs because people began to abuse the use of these to feed self-gratification rather than to cure an illness. Likewise, people through their abuse of the

internet have become accustomed to using it in a way that curtails its once good intentions. Mankind's search for the quick and easy has somehow taken its toll on his ability to be industrious and physically-capable, among many other traits. The vast possibilities of the online world may hold the promise of humanity's progress, but as long as people harbor the intention of abusing the freedom given to them, the internet may continue to be a source and could be the reason for the curtailment of the progress that they seek.

The internet is by no means one of the best technological advances man had achieved for the past decades but concealed within it is a poison, unless it is not taken away, will continue to be detrimental to the moral values, beliefs and traditions we as Filipinos consider humanly right. ▫

Even celebrities have joined the social networking bandwagon, most prominently on the microblog site Twitter. Can you name these famous Twitter users from these anagrams?

1. ENIGMA LAIN (Clue: literature)
2. CORNMEAL GRANTS (sports)
3. A SHARP NAIL (politics)
4. BINARY PRESETS (music)
5. COUGARS GLEE (movies)
6. SPILL EACH HEMP (sports)
7. ANO BA YAN FRIEND (politics)
8. UNITE YE NATION DREAMS ALIVE (institution)
9. O HOW JAILED (movies)
10. VET SWAM DEATH (music)

These people did not need a BS CS degree to become movers in the world of information technology. (We do not encourage you to drop out in the middle of your studies though.)

1. Michael Dell (Founder, chairman and CEO of Dell)
2. Bill Gates (Microsoft)
3. Paul Allen (Co-founder of Microsoft)
4. Steve Jobs (Apple)
5. John Carmack (Lead programmer of Wolfenstein 3D, Quake, Doom)
6. Larry Ellison (Co-founder and CEO of Oracle)
7. Mark Zuckerberg (Facebook)

hypertext / media

by Clang Ramos



What is hypertext/media? The Internet is one such medium where you see it. Remember that time when you googled about 16th century samurai, clicked links upon links, hours upon hours, and ended up on a video of sneezing pandas? That's hypertext/media in action. It shows information in a non-linear manner. Each bit of information is connected to another group of information where the viewers can opt and choose which part to read and examine.

SO WHAT IS IT, AND WHAT'S WITH THE '/'?

Hypertext and hypermedia are two separate terms though taken almost always as synonyms.

ORIGINS AND CONCEPTS

Ted Nelson coined the term "hypertext." He described it plainly as "non sequential writing." [1] Though often coupled with technology, it is not limited to the electronic

means of communication. In another account, Jakob Nielsen describes hypertext as allowing the users to be able to “move freely through the information according to their own needs.” [1]

In 1945, Vannevar Bush proposed Memex or the Memory Expander. Its concept was to have a “mechanized private file library [2]” that would allow the retrieval of information in a more orderly, faster and easier manner in preparation for any type of information explosion of sorts. Though never implemented, his concept and theories heavily influenced the progression of hypertext technology.

Hypertext technology has become part of a growing means of communication and dissemination of information. It has proven to be resilient in the vast need and maintenance of the social media. Any means that use the concept of hypertext in order to meet an end or achieve its goal –such as relaying any sort of information to anyone else is considered Hypertext Media.

THE SOCIAL REALM

People cannot survive without other people. Social media has not only been part of important businesses but it also provided means to sustain networking, socializing and of course, pop culture. Society needs information to survive: people need to be aware on everything that is happening in order to react and respond properly. It is in the social realm where hypertext/media is explicitly created, seen, used and transformed. Let us take a closer look at some avenues and uses provided by hypertext/media.

THE WONDERFUL WORLD WIDE WEB AND SOCIAL MEDIA

THE ROAD TO SOCIAL MEDIA: A BIT OF THE EARLY YEARS AND NEED FOR ADAPTATION

Social media may have started manually through letters or even by word of mouth. From there, it took off to exploring technology and its electronic devices. The need for an easier access to other people grew with time. What would you do if a business client were half way around the globe? Snail mail would definitely be cumbersome. If you work far from your family, you would neither have enough free time to send them postcards, pictures and messages in order to be able to check on them nor would you always find free time to give them long distance phone calls. If you need detailed information on different topics, looking at card catalogues in index cards would take a while before you can even find the books you need.

From telephones and beepers, information had been disseminated through email and chat messages whether for business or personal affairs – much easier and convenient than writing with a pen and paper and of course faster than snail mail (most likely less expensive than long distance calls). When you are in need of specific detailed information, you have the electronic book catalogue where you can simply type keywords or topic you need –you can also opt to simply type it in the web browser and see where it leads you.

With the growing technology, it has not stopped there. With our progressing society, the needs of constant communication and flexible information retrieval are changing. Social media continues to evolve in the form of different blogs, video conferences and other

things. It simply adapts with the needs of society.

EARLIER, CONTINUING AND TRANSFORMING SOCIAL NETWORKS

Social networks are probably one of the most used forms of hypertext media or social media the world uses today. It allows us to relate to other people –see their thoughts and opinions and have meaningful discussions with them. It allows people to share part of their lives with others.

Early on forums or message boards has been a source of communication. People go to forums to discuss things they see interesting. They can create new “threads” under specific topics and they can post questions, statements, pictures and other things. They can post anything related to that thread whether it is a comment or opinion and the discussion can take as long as it can. Topics could include anything from politics, books, music, anime, fan fiction, actors, actresses – anything that spark the curiosity and interest of the users. It is a place where people can freely express themselves

Similarly, blogs and LiveJournals provide the same avenue for self expression. Some people “blog” about their daily life –whether they are sad frustrated or depressed. They use their blogs to show poems and stories they made or pictures and other stuff they made through graphic editing tools like Photoshop or Gimp. They use their blogs to share pictures and they can link to other people’s blogs and comment on each other’s blog.

As for LiveJournals, apart from your own blog, you can join or create communities wherein other users and members of that community can interact. Many other social

networking sites have come about like Friendster, MySpace or MultiPLY. Again, you can connect with your friends, read their posts, see the pictures or uploaded videos among other things. Probably the most used social network right now is Facebook.

What sets Facebook apart is it integrates your contacts with various mini games like Restaurant City. You can hire your contacts to become chefs and cook for your restaurant. You can also trade ingredients with them. Facebook games show a simulation that society needs each other in order to achieve its goal. For example, some games require you to invite your contacts so you can trade items with them or make them your ally. It is one of the most interactive social networks existing so far.

SPECIFIC OR NICHE SOCIAL NETWORKS

Media sharing has gone to a whole different level. Apart from the P2P sharing, there are sites which cater to specific forms of media. Photobucket was one of the first photo sharing sites that was rampantly used at one point in time [3]. You can simply upload different pictures you want and just modify which you want to keep private. Other stock photo sites or photo sharing networks include Flickr among others.

Other media like videos also have specific sites dedicated to them. The ever popular Youtube is probably one of the most used and known for video sharing. It ranges from movie previews, music videos, homemade videos and others. There are also sites – though not necessarily social networks, where you can stream television series online like surfthechannel or even entire movies. Generally, the qualities of the videos are

acceptable.

NEWS, NEWS, MORE NEWS... AND PROBABLY ANY OTHER THING OF INTEREST

With information readily available with just one click away, people have found ways to share news they find meaningful, interesting or simply humorous with other people. Digg and Reddit are examples of these. With Digg, viewers can choose to “dig” the post if they like it or simply “bury” it if otherwise. It can be any sort of news in any form of media. Reddit works in a similar manner.

Other sites, blogs included can also be specialized. For example, there are some food blogs can be dedicated solely to cake or cupcakes or some sort of “food art.” Some sites, like Slashdot, are devoted to technologically related news. Websites are so diverse nowadays that you are bound to find a site that is of your taste. One way or another, there is always a way to get the information you need. If you are not sure where to look you can just “google” it.

WHERE ARE WE NOW?

Probably the most apt word to describe the lifestyle of today’s society is “current.” Everyone knows what is happening with almost everyone they know. Hypertext Media has developed greatly allowing people to know what is going on with other people’s life in real time –or a very good approximation of it. Twitter, for example, allow people to share “tweets” –anything under the sun, in the form of short messages or links to videos and whatnot. Even actors and actresses have twitter accounts and anyone who connects with them can “follow” and see what they have to say.

In a similar manner, another form of micro blogging would be Plurk. Who has not heard of Plurk? Like Twitter, you can see the “plurks” in a timeline of the people you are connected to. People can comment on other people’s post, making it look a sort of mini chat room. It has become so rampant in our context that it is probably the fastest way to disseminate information. Another growing form of blogging platform to look out for is Tumblr. It is a sort of short-form blog; again uses mixed media like photos, videos, quotes and others which is very customizable and easy to use. It is definitely something to look into if you have the time.

These avenues continue to grow and evolve with time and more avenues are in constant development. Hypertext Media allows you to stay connected with everyone and anyone; it gives a whole new dimension to the notion of having the world at the tip of your fingers. ▫

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dear guru thomas

We are all aware of the emergence of many social networking sites such as Facebook, MySpace, and more, which require us to put in our personal information. But did you ever think that it might be dangerous to share these in public? It may not be dangerous at all times, but it still pays to be careful. Hence, we shall now ask our internet guru THOMAS on this issue.

GURU THOMAS SAYS...

For the most part, it's fine to give out your information if you're confident that it won't pose any harm to you. However, there exists the risk of identity thefts and the risk of somebody stalking you. As if it's not enough that we have random people texting us, we also have these same random people adding us up in Facebook or Multiply.

So the next time you put in your information, make sure that you're comfortable with the whole world seeing those data. With the world nowadays, especially in Facebook, it's as if our actions are being monitored in their quizzes to determine our personality and characteristics, therefore exposing more than what you actually think. Even our inner selves are being penetrated. With these data, we can almost be read like an open book. So if you're feeling that it's too personal, don't share it and just keep it to yourself. The bottom line: it's really dependent on the person on how much information he or she is willing to give out. Ayun.

With the transformations on modern technology, people will be able to easily trace us if we're not careful. Knowing about the things we can do online, it will be easy for scammers to easily deceive us with their online personas. We really won't know which is true anymore. The online world can be as dangerous as the real world, so next time think about which details you are willing to give to strangers. Who knows, if you're not careful some pervert might be salivating over your picture he found over at multiply and might be planning on how to follow you not only on Plurk, but also in real life.

This is the reason why I prefer to have another persona online in the name of LEV SANTOS, so that if they try to trace me it will lead them nowhere.

If you geeks have something you wish our guru to answer, feel free to send them at wildcard.askthomas@gmail.com. Don't worry, it won't be sent to an unsuspecting person over at Japan with the same name as our guru Thomas. ▣

by Lev Leetian

Horoscope

Everyone needs a little bit of guidance regarding their money, career, and love life – even computer geeks like ourselves. We asked our resident fortune teller to provide us this much needed guidance according to what the stars tell us.



SCORPIO

24 October - 22 November

A lot of people will frustrate you this month. Try to keep your cool. Your normal routine and scheduled events will not go as planned. Do not get too stressed about it. Look at the bright side. You will see that what happened is actually humorous in some twisted way; very blog-worthy.

SAGITTARIUS

23 November - 21 December

Your sense of adventure will reawaken. Take time out to do new things and go to new places. Just remember not to be overly relaxed. It's good to have fun once in a while but you shouldn't forget your other responsibilities.

CAPRICORN

22 December - 20 January

You will find yourself bothered one way or another. There is this unexplainable feeling and for some reason it won't go away. You will feel like you keep on missing or forgetting something. Try talking to people and see their input. You will find that they may be on to something.

AQUARIUS

21 January - 19 February

Someone from your past will catch up with you; whether it is a friend who suddenly added you in Facebook or an enemy who you will see sometime somewhere. You will have to confront each other.

PISCES

20 February - 20 March

You will find yourself with the need to network more than ever this month – probably because of a job

or something professional that you need support from a lot of people. Try having them in close contact. If you don't have a Facebook account or a Twitter or Plurk account, make one.

ARIES

21 March - 20 April

Now is the time for innovation. You will be faced with challenges that will put your creativity to the test. A little extra effort and you will succeed. You may find yourself so busy but do not forget to mind the people around you. Give time to you socialize; even a simple plurk will do. You will accomplish more and may even find out they can be helpful in the tasks you need to work on.

TAURUS

21 April - 21 May

Your career is your top priority this month. The workload may be too much that you just want to get away and take a break. Though things seem tough, it will be very fruitful and you will be rewarded greatly. On another matter, you may find yourself more jealous than usual. Do not let it get into your head though; it gives off the impression of insecurity.

GEMINI

22 May - 21 June

Now is a time to relax. You will notice that you are able to express yourself more openly and freely. It is best to engage in activities or work that can help express what you feel – anything artistic. Communication is your strength this month. Work related to designing or advertising will come easily.

CANCER

22 June - 23 July

Things that inspired you as a child will reemerge and rejuvenate you to work harder. Money matters is another top priority for you this month. Be careful on what you spend. Treat yourself but don't splurge too much. You will also find yourself in the middle of a quarrel and you must help in patching up a lost friendship.

LEO

24 July - 23 August

You will be placed in situations where you need to offer guidance to a loved one. Try not to push them away and listen to their worries. Your words can deeply inspire them to get back on their feet.

VIRGO

21 August - 23 September

You will struggle with a misunderstanding with someone you consider really special. You may try to avoid each other and probably not see each other at all. Try saying what's on your mind. Make the first step. Problems do not fix themselves.

LIBRA

24 September - 23 October

You will be given opportunities that will help you steer your life in the direction you choose. You will be faced with decisions that will make you take control of things around you. But don't be too callous with the feelings of others. You might hurt someone in the process.

flashforward

CompSAT events that you ABSOLUTELY should NOT miss

—by Lev Leetian & TC Andallaza

Had a blast with CompSAT's events last sem? Well, get ready because there are more to come in the 2nd Semester! To give you guys an idea, here are some of the awesome things to look forward to after sem break:

COMPSAT WEEK

Gear up for a week-long celebration of everything IT. Celebrate with CompSAT as we show the Ateneo community what we've got to offer. The week is capped off with our much anticipated Second General Assembly, where we once again get together as one big org.

INTERACTIVE MULTIMEDIA EXHIBIT

Gear up for a week-long celebration of the wonders of multimedia as the org shares with the Ateneo community a hands-on experience of what the field of interactive multimedia offers. From Photoshop to video games, we'll be giving a window of what's new in the scene, as well as the many innovations made throughout the years.

ROCKBAND TOURNAMENT

Think you've got the skills and voice of a real band? Face off against the CompSat members in a Rockband tournament as part of the activities lined up for the Interactive Multimedia Exhibit. Prizes and bragging rights await the next Foo Fighters or Fall Out Boy.

IUPC

Inter-University Programming Competition brings teams from the top colleges in Metro Manila in an annual programming competition hosted by CompSAT. It also serves as a training ground for the prestigious ACM Inter-Collegiate Programming Competition.

/IT

Interscholar competition takes on a new level as CompSAT introduces to high school students a contest to test their knowledge on everything that is technology. An annual event usually held in the 2nd sem, this gives the org an opportunity to show others the wonders of IT in search of the techie-est school out there!

LOOPBACK

If we end a school year with saying farewell to our graduating orgmates, why not say welcome back to them? With this in mind, this event aims to give our CompSAT alumni a warm welcome home as we relive with them the good old days when they too were in our shoes as org members. Truly, there's no place like 127.0.0.1!

BUFFER!

Do you believe you can make CompSAT even more awesome? Before taking that big step, join fellow aspirants to Buffer! where past and present officers share their bright and dark experiences of leadership. This is a great way to prepare for next year's elections if you wish to run for office.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

A merry Christmas is in order as CompSAT celebrates the joyous season in a special way. It's also a time to share with our fellow orgmates gifts, carols, and even warm hugs as we give thanks for the year that passed.

PH CHECKUP

Project heads have been tasked with checking up with their teams and volunteers all semester long. Now, it's time for the project heads to get their checkup. CompSAT wants to know how you, project heads, have been, and how we could be of better service to our PHs.

CS21B TUTORIALS

Are you getting tangled up in threads in your CS21b classes? Fear no more because your upperclassmen are once again giving a tutorial session for your midterms and finals! Just like last semester, it is completely free and is held a week before your midterm or finals schedule so that it will be fresh from the oven. Consult with your nearest upperclassmen now!

ITM TUTORIALS

Who says only MIS and CS people are the only ones we help? A computer class with a SOM flavor, the ITM Tutorials will help our SOM buddies review for their ITM exams. In line with our goal to share IT, this tutorial is our means of sharing our knowledge with them, and hopefully helping them score big time come exam day.

IT CONFERENCE

A means to share IT with others outside the org, the IT Conference is going to be a two-day event where college students from all over the Metro are given the chance to take a glimpse of where the IT revolution is currently in. Speakers from varying fields will conduct talks about these issues, and will share their insights on the current trend of IT in our world today.

SPORTSFEST

Geeks are known to not exercise their physical bodies, but we will prove this stereotype wrong. You will see our members engage in full physical activity against other members to prove that they are not only buff mentally, but also physically. It also stimulates friendship and camaraderie among the members.

I LAB IT

Ah memories... remember the first time you held a lab computer in your CS21a class? Some of us may have held it as recently as that, while others practically spent their whole college lives on them. What better way is it then than to ensure that they remain in tip-top shape for the many new students to come? Here's a chance for CompSAT members to say a little thank you to our beloved lab technicians for all the help they continually give.

DISCS APPRECIATION DAY

This event aims to give our mentors a big thank you for all the times they have shared their knowledge and experience with us. It will be a day full of activities, games, food, and gifts for our beloved father, mother, and even ate or kuya figures in our second home.

Also don't miss the second semester installments of these events:

GEEK SHIRT SALE
INSTALLFEST
TAMBAY WEEK
ROFL
IT FORUMS
IT SEMINARS
DEPARTMENT GAS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2
YEAR-ENDER



wildcard: hypertext/media issue