

# DELTA TIME

by

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Perhaps, I should start by explaining the name by which this column will be called. The idea came to me when a lecturer of the NSDB SSI remarked that delta ( $\Delta$ ) means a "little bit of", like a little increment in time would be called  $\Delta t$ . The column is therefore called delta time because I'm sure it would take only a teenie-weenie bit of your time to go through it.

The schoolyear has just started and the students engage once again in a very palatable pastime — complaining against teachers. Instructors don't know how to explain the lessons, instructors can't find adequate English words to explain what they really mean, instructors are not familiar with the subject matter they are trying to teach, instructors do not practise what they teach, instructors give difficult examinations, instructors give lots of homeworks, etc., etc., etc....

Students particularly remember the 3's and the 5's the instructors give them. "I wouldn't want to be in that teacher's class again.

And if students flunk, instructors lament: I was a no-good teacher! Poor instructor! On him falls all the blame.

Somebody suggested that the university create a Department of Complaints. A sane suggestion, indeed! Such a department is not a monopoly of department stores. That is one department everybody could make use of. (I'm sure Lily would use it ahead of everybody else because of the delinquency of the staffers, particularly of this columnist. My apologies!)

The trouble is to whom will the

personnel of this department complain? One big problem is all of us want to complain but we find it rather distressing to lend an ear to others' complaints. We are so big-headed we always believe we have the heaviest burden in the world. Shame! If Christ kept silent after what He went through, what right have we to complain? But, after all, Christ was God and we are nothing but frail human beings.

But if we must complain, shouldn't we voice out these complaints to the ones concerned? I simply admire those who can be frank even if brutal, sometimes, but I just can't stand those who complain against others behind their backs — especially when they act so sweet before them. For me, such is a hybrid of hypocrisy and backbiting.

I'd rather believe we can accomplish more by training ourselves to like everybody, and for us students, especially every instructor that comes up in our classes. There simply is no other alternative. Imagine sitting in a class facing an instructor who we believed could never teach at all! What an ordeal! More so if he would be teaching a course we wish were never "discovered at all."

And examinations! If only we could go through college without ever having to take a single examination! What joy of joys! Examinations are, I believe, the students' most common allergy... especially when propositions to be proved are too abstract to be imagined or believed in!

I recently discovered a way which has made examinations for me a little less intolerable. I simply believe that as students we are supposed to study. As soon as we have tried our best to put into our heads as much as it possibly can hold, then we have done our part. Leave the rest to God. "Trying our best", however, includes listening to classroom lectures, making homeworks unless, of course, (homeworks are so confusing it is impossible to make them), studying assignments, and even doing extra research work, if necessary. After that examinations wouldn't be too much of a nuisance. Whether we get a 1 or a 3 or a 5 wouldn't matter. Take it as the will of God — that is, I repeat, after we have done OUR part. We can honor and glorify Him



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better with a well-deserved 3 than with an illegally obtained 1.

I suppose that it is proper that I talk about libraries now. Pity those books in the shelves! Imagine those pages of knowledge allowed to go to waste day after day! At the rate things are going, the dust which which have accumulated on those books are by now a lot more learned than many of us! And it's all our fault! If we spend a quarter-hour a day on a few pages of those real "foody" books, we would know much more than we do now. But how many make use of the library? In fact, it seems to me more students patronize the canteen than the library. Please prove me wrong!

I gathered something from one of the lectures I recently heard. Why is the ocean the greatest body of water? Because it is the lowest of them all. Meaning: Humility breeds greatness.

What is humility?

I find genuine values hard to come by these days — I don't know why. But I recently came across a treasure — a new viewpoint towards a very old idea — the only completely unselfish viewpoint I have so far encountered.

Our primary aim is not the salvation of our soul but the glorification of God.

If all would realize this, the chapel would overflow with students during the 10:50 and 4:45 masses.

By the way, Gilopez Kabaydo will soon give a violin concert. Let's see how well the tickets sell. Then we will know for sure whether those people who appeared to be enjoying the performance of the US Air Force band last year really enjoyed the music — not the suspension of classes. This is a challenge to those concerned!