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P10.00

PAGASA issues El Niño alert

MANILA – The weather bureau officially issued an El Niño alert on Wednesday, following the high probability that this phenomenon would develop from June to August and last until early 2027.

The Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Ser-



(PAGASA graphics)

vices Administration is a 79 percent chance (PAGASA) said there (Turn to p. 2)

DOLE assures Senate better TUPAD validation, monitoring

MANILA – An official of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) on Wednesday said the agency is strengthening validation and monitoring mechanisms of the Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa Ating Disadvantaged/Displaced Workers (TUPAD) program.

DOLE Undersecretary Benedicto Ernesto Bitonio Jr. said during a public hearing of the Senate Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development that the agency revised its guidelines to empha-

size meaningful work and tighter oversight of beneficiaries.

“Actually, we just revised our guidelines para ma-emphasize na... ‘yung meaningful naman dapat at merong social value yung kanilang ginagawa (We have revised our guidelines to emphasize that the work should be meaningful and have social value),” he said.

He added that DOLE is enhancing its validation process, including limiting assistance to one beneficiary per household per year and coordinating with

the Philippine Statistics Authority to use community-based monitoring and the national ID system.

“Yung beneficiaries po sa TUPAD ay gagamitin na rin namin ‘yung... national ID system... sa ganun, magagwardyahan po ‘yung paulit-ulit na pag-access sa benefits (We will use the national ID system for TUPAD beneficiaries so repeated access to benefits can be prevented),” he said.

The reforms were discussed after Senator Raffy Tulfo, who (Turn to p.2)



DENGUE AWARENESS. Members of the emergency employment program TUPAD from Tatalon, Quezon City remove water from containers that can be breeding grounds for mosquitoes inside the Esteban Abada Elementary School on June 5, 2025. An official of the Department of Labor and Employment said the agency is strengthening validation and monitoring mechanisms of the Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa Ating Disadvantaged/Displaced Workers (TUPAD) program. (PNA file photo)

Public participation vital in conserving environment

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna (PIA) — Driven by the goal of preserving a clean and sustainable environment for future generations, around 2,500 students from various colleges and universities across Calamba City took part in a simultaneous city-wide river cleanup on Thursday, April 16.

Highlighting the city's commitment to environmental stew-

ardship, Calamba City Higher Education Institutions Association (CCHEIA) President Dr. Ronald Gonzales shared that the initiative forms part of Calamba's 25th Cityhood Anniversary and is among the key activities marking the milestone.

With the theme, “Kalinga sa Kalikasan, Kinabukasan ng Kabataan,” the citywide river cleanup initiative



highlights the importance of government agencies, institutions, and communities working together to achieve a sustainable

environment for generations to come.

“The rivers that flow through the city are vital lifelines, they sustain ecosystems,

they support livelihoods, and reflect overall health of our environment. However, these same rivers faced growing threats from pollution, improper waste disposal, and environmental neglect. This is why initiatives like today's activity are crucial; they demonstrate that when institutions, government agencies and communities come together, meaningful change becomes possible,” Gonzales said

in his message.

He also emphasized that the program served as a declaration of their shared responsibility to protect and preserve the environment, with the involvement of the youth to instill the importance of environmental initiatives and action.

Meanwhile, in an interview, Calamba City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) Department (Turn to p.2)

DOLE. . FR. P. 1

chairs the panel, raised concerns over alleged misuse of the program.

“Maraming mga complaints na receive ko sa programa ko na maling pagka-implementation ng TUPAD... ipi-picture-an, may hawak ng walis, and then after that, go home (I have received many complaints about the wrong implementation of TUPAD... they are photographed holding a broom, then after

that, they go home),” Tulfo said.

Tulfo called for stricter monitoring to ensure that beneficiaries perform meaningful work and that assistance reaches qualified recipients.

Bitonio said the agency would submit a report to the Senate committee detailing the improvements in TUPAD implementation. (PNA)

Marcos declares special non-working days for local festivals



MANILA – President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. has declared several special non-working days in parts of Laguna, Quezon, Batangas, and Misamis Oriental to allow residents to celebrate local festivals and anniversaries.

Proclamation 1219 sets April 30 as a special non-working day in the municipality of San Francisco, Quezon, for its founding anniversary. On the same date, Proclamation 1220 designates a special non-working day in Calatagan, Batangas, to celebrate its Cultural Day, which highlights local heritage and traditions.

Meanwhile, May 15 was declared a special non-working day in Calauan, Laguna, under Proclamation 1221 for the annual Calauan Pinya Festival, which honors the town’s pineapple industry.

Also on May 15,

Proclamation 1222 declares a special non-working day in Lucban, Quezon, for the Pahiyas Festival, one of the country’s most colorful harvest celebrations showcasing agricultural abundance and creativity.

In Misamis Oriental, Proclamation 1223 designates May 22 as a special non-working day in Gingoog City for the Lubi-Lubi Festival, which celebrates the city’s coconut industry through street dancing and cultural events.

All proclamations were signed on April 20 by acting Executive Secretary Ralph Recto by authority of the President.

The Palace said the declarations aim to give residents the full opportunity to participate in the celebrations and promote local culture and tourism. (PNA)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. . FR. P. 1

Head Joseph Arlan Llorente emphasized the value of collective participation in environmental initiatives, noting that their impact goes beyond individuals, benefiting the entire community and the environment as a whole.

Although challeng-

PAGASA . . . FR. P. 1

of El Niño during the specified period, or a situation wherein a drier-than-usual conditions, including dry spells and droughts in parts of the country, may happen.

It, however, said above-normal rainfall may still be experienced over the country’s western section during the southwest monsoon or Habagat season.

El Niño is characterized by cooler-than-average sea surface temperatures (SSTs) over the Philippine Sea, and warmer-than-average SSTs in the Central and Eastern Equatorial Pa-

SSS . . . FR. P. 4

obligations through structured payment arrangements without additional penalties, ensuring continued social security coverage and protection for their employees.

Early implementation of pension increase

In support of pensioners, SSS is advancing the implementation of the scheduled 2026 pension increase under the SSS Pension Reform Program, from September to June 2026, providing earlier financial relief. Retirement and disability pensions will increase by 10%, while death

es with waste management persist, he emphasized that discipline is key to reducing waste, especially waste that ends up in rivers and waterways, which degrades water quality and obstructs water flow during heavy rains or typhoons.

cific.

In a press conference, PAGASA Administrator Nathaniel Servando said the bureau is closely monitoring the developments so it could provide the necessary advisories to the public.

He said the below-normal rainfall might affect several sectors, such as energy, agriculture, as well as water resources.

In the same press conference, PAGASA Climate Monitoring and Prediction Section chief Analiza Solis said the bureau forecasts El Niño to start weak. (PNA)

and survivor benefits will increase by 5%.

SSS is expected to release approximately ₱6.5 billion for the early implementation of pension increase from June to August 2026, directly supporting millions of pensioners and their families.

In fulfilling its mandate, SSS remains committed to responding to the needs of its members while ensuring the prudent management and long-term sustainability of the social security fund for present and future generations. PR

“Waste is something we cannot avoid, it is a daily concern in every household. What we need, above all, is discipline so we can keep our surroundings in order. While many Filipinos strive to keep their homes clean, this responsibility should extend beyond our doorsteps. So the principle of ‘Tapat Mo, Linis Mo’ is something we must also enforce in every barangay,” Llorente said.

He also called on the public to refrain from using single-use plastics, noting that plastic waste continues to pose serious environmental challenges, polluting rivers and waterways, degrading the environment, and disrupting local ecosystems.

Meanwhile, to ensure the sustainability of the program, Llorente said

the local government unit under the leadership of Mayor Roseller Rizal, with the support of the Calamba City CENRO, regularly conducts river cleanup activities alongside barangay-led initiatives and the cleanup of other tributaries feeding into the lake, which can sometimes generate up to 100 sacks of collected waste.

In the 2023 IQA-ir World Air Quality Report, Calamba City was ranked as the least polluted city in the Philippines and placed sixth among the cleanest cities in Southeast Asia.

In line with this distinction, the city government continues to affirm the implementation of environment-centered initiatives, projects, and ordinances. (COP/PIA-CALABARZON)

CAVITE NEWS PUBLISHING

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
TRECE MARTIRES CITY

FORECLOSURE CASE NO. F-144-26

BDO UNIBANK, INC.,
Mortgagee,

-versus-

SPS. ERICK T. YECYEC AND
JACKQUELYN D. YECYEC
Debtors/Mortgagors,

X-----X

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial Petition for Sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118, filed by Mortgagee, **BDO UNIBANK, INC.**, with business address at BDO Corporate Center, 33rd Floor, BDO Corporate Center Ortigas, No. 12 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City against the Debtors/Mortgagors, **SPS. ERICK T. YECYEC and JACKQUELYN D. YECYEC**, with residence and postal addresses at (1) Block 6, Lot 9 Lemon St., Summerwind 3, Salitran 3, Dasmariñas City, Cavite (occupied by third party) and (2) Block 6, Lot 5, Phase 1, Westwood, Brgy. Pasong Camachile, Gen. Trias City, Cavite (currently occupied), to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of **February 6, 2026** amounts to **ONE MILLION SIX HUNDRED NINETY TWO THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED SEVENTY NINE PESOS and 74/100 (PhP1,692,779.74)**, Philippine Currency, including interest, penalties and other charges as of said date but exclusive of all other expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff will sell at public auction on **MAY 29, 2026** at 10:00 o'clock in the morning until 12:00 o'clock noon at the main entrance of the Government Center Building located at the Provincial Capitol Compound, Trece Martires City, to the highest bidder for **CASH** and in Philippine Currency, the following described property with all the improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 057-2020027001

LOT NO:5 Block No.6 Plan No. Pcs-04-029302
Portion of: the cons/subd of Lots 1928, 1929, 1932 & 1933, San Francisco de Malabon Estate, & Lots 1939,-B & 1939-C (LRC) Psd-29632, Decreed No. 4270, LRC Rec. No. 5964
Location: Barangay of Pasong Camachile, Municipality of Gen. Trias, Province of Cavite, Island of Luzon

Boundaries:

LINE	DIRECTION	ADJOINING LOT (S)
1-2	SE	Lot 38, Block 6, Pcs-04-029302
2-3	SW	Lot 6, Block 6, Pcs-04-029302
3-4	NW	Road Lot 1, Pcs-04-029302
4-1	NE	Lot 4, Block 6, Pcs-04-029302

AREA: FIFTY SQUARE METERS (50), more or less

All sealed bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the above-stated time and date.

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date and time, it shall be held on **June 05, 2026** without further notice.

Prospective bidders/buyers are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title to the said property and encumbrances thereon, if any there be.

Trece Martires City, **April 11, 2026**

RICARDO A. TOLEDO
Sheriff IV

Copy furnished

BDO UNIBANK, INC.
CONSUMER REMEDIAL MANAGEMENT
33rd Floor, BDO Corporate Center Ortigas
No. 12, ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City

SPS. ERICK T. YECYEC & JACKQUELYN D. YECYEC
(1) Block 6, Lot 9 Lemon St., Summerwind 3, Salitran 3, Dasmariñas City, Cavite
(2) Block 6, Lot 5, Phase 1, Westwood, Brgy. Pasong Camachille, Gen. Trias City, Cavite

Published at: Cavite News Publishing
Dates: April 23-May 7, 14, 2026

WARNING: It is absolutely prohibited to remove deface or destroy this Notice of Extra-Judicial Sale on or before the date of sale.

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
TRECE MARTIRES CITY

FORECLOSURE CASE NO. F-166-26

BDO UNIBANK, INC.,
Mortgagee,

-versus-

SPS. EVANGELINE B. GONZALES AND
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Debtor/Mortgagor,

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TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 057-2021068986

LOT NO:4 Block No.2 Plan No. Pcs-04-029031
Portion of: Lots 1548 (RS-04-002232); 1553 (RS-04-003334), 1573 (RS-002132); 1556, 1558, 1559, all of San Francisco de Malabon Estate; 1572-A & 1572-D, both of Psd-04208-055969 1557-A, 1557 B, 1557-C, all of (LRC) Psd-117597, Blk. 120, Blk. 122, Blk. 123 & Road Lot 1, all of Pcs-04-017881, (LRC) Rec. No. 5964

Location: Barangay of Bacao I & II, Municipality of General Trias, Province of Cavite, Island of Luzon

Boundaries:

LINE	DIRECTION	ADJOINING LOT (S)
1-2	SW	Lot 3, Block 2, Pcs-04-02031
2-3-4-5	NW,SW	Lot 11, Block 2, Pcs-04-02031
5-6	SW	Lot 10, Block 2, Pcs-04-02031
6-7	NW	Lot 5,Block 2, Pcs-04-02031
7-8-9-10-11-1	SE	Road Lot 3 (15M wide), Pcs-04-02031

AREA: TWO HUNDRED TWO SQUARE METERS (202), more or less

All sealed bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the above-stated time and date.

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date and time, it shall be held on **June 05, 2026** without further notice.

Prospective bidders/buyers are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title to the said property and encumbrances thereon, if any there be.

Trece Martires City, **April 11, 2026**

ANDRES B. ESPINA
Sheriff IV

Copy furnished

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CONSUMER REMEDIAL MANAGEMENT
33rd Floor, BDO Corporate Center Ortigas
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Silang residents benefit from PGC's Medical and Dental Mission

A total of 491 residents from Barangay Ipil II, Silang benefitted from a medical and dental mission conducted by the Provincial Government on April 1 through the initiative of the Office of the Provincial Governor – Medical Mission Team, bringing essential healthcare services closer to the community.

The outreach activity provided free medical consultations, dental services, and prescribed medicines to beneficiaries, as well as ECG procedures and FBS test, ensuring that residents received proper care and attention from healthcare professionals of the Office of the Provincial Health Officer.

Demonstrating strong support for the program, 5th District Board Member Ivey Jayne Reyes, together with the Sangguniang Bayan members, graced the activity. They expressed their heartfelt appreciation to the provincial government for extending much-needed medical and dental services to their constituents. Their presence underscored the importance of collaboration between local and provincial officials in delivering responsive and inclusive public service.--- OPIO



Operation Tuli serves 101 young boys in the City of General Trias

A successful run of the PGC's Operation Tuli program was conducted recently, at Barangay Manggahan, City of General Trias, providing essential medical services to young male beneficiaries in the community.

A total of 101 patients safely underwent circumcision, performed by skilled and dedicated medical professionals from the Office of the Provincial Health Officer (OPHO), General Trias Rural Health Unit, and interns from the Cavite State University College of Medicine. The collaborative effort ensured that all procedures were carried out efficiently, following proper medical standards and protocols.

The activity was also graced by 6th District Board Member Kerby Salazar, who showed support for the initiative and emphasized the importance of accessible healthcare services at the community level.

The Operation Tuli program not only promoted proper hygiene and preventive healthcare among young boys but also reflected the continued commitment of local health authorities and partners in delivering quality and compassionate medical services to the people.--- OPIO

Universities, colleges in Laguna urged to implement flexible learning modality amid energy crisis

SANTA CRUZ, Laguna (PIA) — As students in this province call on universities and colleges to suspend face-to-face classes due to the ongoing energy crisis, the provincial government of Laguna convened a dialogue with educators to discuss possible measures to ensure continuity and maintain high-quality education standards in the province.

Governor Sol Aragon led a consultation with officials from various public and private universities and colleges in Laguna on April 15 at the Provincial Capitol in Santa Cruz, where she highlighted several challenges raised by students to her office, primarily higher oil prices and rising transportation fares, as well as the increasing cost of basic goods and commodities.

“Ina-acknowledge natin na mahirap talaga. Lahat tayo ay nag-a-agree na sa krisis na kinakaharap natin, nahihirapan ang mga estudyante, kahit pa sabihin natin na may libreng sakay pero ang problema of course hindi naman natin kayang solusyonan lahat,”

The governor said she is weighing the possible repercussions of a full shift to online classes, which may affect students’ performance and competitiveness, as well as disrupt institutional operations. She is therefore pushing for a flexible learning modality, depending on the nature of school activities or requirements.

“Okay naman sana kung puwede lang na online lang lahat para walang mamamasahe. Ang problema natin,



na meron tayong mga tinatawag na board programs. May mga lecture na puwedeng online, pero may mga actual o laboratory na hindi puwede, kailangan pumasok, kailangan actual nila matutunan ‘yun,” she added.

For Laguna University, the provincial government-run institution, lectures for college programs with licensure examinations are advised to continue [conducting face-to-face classes and activities due to the demanding nature of their requirements.

“Mahirap pumasa sa board exam kung ang ating pag-aaral sa mga board subjects na kasamang mga itatamong sa board exam ay hindi pag-aaralan face to face. Iniisip natin, ng ating gobernador, ang kailangan ninyong mga estudyante na hindi isinasakripisyo ang kalidad ng edukasyon,” Laguna University President Dr. Charlemagne Laviña said during the meeting.

While private higher education institutions acknowledged that students are in a difficult situation attending face-to-face classes during the crisis, they emphasized that in-person classes, laboratory sessions, and examinations are essential in preparing students to become globally competitive

in their chosen fields after graduation.

Lyceum of the Philippines University Laguna Chancellor Dr. Lerma Calingasan stressed: “Ang aming commitment bilang private higher education institutions ay maging local colleges and universities, ay siguraduhing ang uri ng edukasyon ay hindi masasakripisyo sa gitna ng krisis. Pare-pareho tayong dumadaan sa krisis. Hindi tayo magpapabaya sa ating ipinangako na mas mataas na uri ng edukasyon,”

The governor also regarded the need to balance students’ safety and accessibility, especially as transportation challenges continue to affect daily commuting, and following the guidelines set by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) on student attendance.

Aragones said schools will be given the authority to determine and announce their specific class arrangements, including which programs will be conducted face-to-face and which will remain online. She encouraged students to stay updated through official school advisories and social media platforms to keep track of their class schedules and learning modalities.

This week, the provincial government of Laguna rolled out its Libreng Sakay

SSS responds to economic challenges with expanded relief programs, ₱60B in support for members and pensioners

QUEZON CITY (April 16, 2026) – Following the directive of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. and under the guidance of Social Security Commission (SSC) Chair Secretary Frederick D. Go, the Social Security System (SSS) is strengthening access to its existing programs in response to rising energy costs, inflationary pressures, and the broader economic impact of ongoing geopolitical tensions in the Middle East. These initiatives include policy enhancements to improve accessibility, and the early implementation of this year’s pension increase to provide timely financial relief to members, pensioners, and employers.

SSS President and Chief Executive Officer Robert Joseph M. de Claro said, “We recognize that rising prices and economic uncertainty continue to place pressure on Filipino families and businesses. Through these enhanced programs, SSS is ensuring that our members and pensioners have access to timely, affordable and reliable financial support when they need it most.”

Collectively, these programs are expected to provide up to approximately ₱60

billion in financial assistance and benefit support.

Emergency Loan Program

Members facing urgent financial needs may apply for the enhanced Emergency Loan Program, which offers up to ₱20,000 at a reduced interest rate of 7% per annum, with a six-month repayment moratorium.

To improve accessibility, SSS has relaxed the eligibility requirements from 36 to 18 months of posted contributions, with at least six (6) contributions posted within the last 12 months. The program now also covers members with minimal past-due loans of up to three (3) monthly amortizations, as well as overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) through simplified eligibility requirements.

Around ₱27 billion has been allocated for this program, which is expected to benefit an estimated 2.24 million eligible members, providing a safe and affordable alternative to informal lenders and helping them cover essential expenses such as medical needs, education and daily household requirements.

Micro-Loan Program

SSS is set to roll out short-term loans ranging from ₱1,000 to ₱20,000 with repayment terms of 15 to 90 days and an affordable rate of 8% per annum.

The program will be delivered through digital platforms and partner financial institutions, enabling faster

and more convenient access to funds. It aims to provide immediate liquidity support while promoting financial inclusion, with a target loan portfolio of up to ₱40 billion within the next two (2) years.

Loan penalty condonation

For members with past-due loans, SSS continues to implement the Consolidation of Past Due Short-Term Member Loans with Condonation of Penalty Program.

Under this program, penalties of unpaid loans are fully waived upon settlement of the principal and interest. Members may choose flexible payment options: one-time settlement or installment terms up to 60 months with a minimum down payment of 10%.

Applications may be conveniently filed online via My.SSS portal.

Employer contribution delinquency reliefs

SSS is also providing relief to delinquent employers through penalty condonation and restructuring programs.

These include the Contribution Penalty Condonation, Delinquency Management, and Restructuring Program (CPCoDe MRP) for businesses and the Contribution Penalty Condonation and Restructuring Program (CPCR-P) for household employers.

These measures allow employers to settle contribution

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These measures allow employers to settle contribution

The Full House Breakfast: A Meal You Don't Overthink

(MANILA, Philippines) 20 April 2026 – “Where should we eat?” We’ve all asked it. Usually when we’re tired, hungry, or just can’t decide. Sometimes we want something brand new; other times, we crave something effortless. But every now and then, you find yourself certain about the one place you already know will hit the spot.

For a lot of us, that’s Pancake House.

Since its beginning, Pancake House has been that in-between place a lot of us keep coming back to. Not quite home, not quite out, but something familiar in its own way. It’s the place you grew up going to after Sunday mass, or where you end up after a long day seeking a taste of something familiar. No guessing, no overthinking, just food you know you’ll enjoy.

This season, Pancake House is leaning into comfort with the launch of the Full House Breakfast.

The Anatomy of a Classic

The Full House Breakfast gives the “greatest hits” of the morning table:

- Classic Pancake & Waffle Duo
- 3 pcs. Crispy Bacon Strips
- Choice of 3 pcs. Country Sausage or 2 pcs. Sweet Ham
- 2 Eggs
- Grilled Tomato

At just ₱499, enjoy a plate where sweet meets savory, soft meets crisp, and indulgent meets familiar. It is a recipe that treats balance as its primary ingredient.

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Macau finally wins, ROS ends winning streak in PBA

MANILA – Macau finally scored a win in the PBA Commissioner's Cup after adding some more mid-conference woes to Titan Ultra with a 119-107 beating on Tuesday night at the Ninoy Aquino Stadium.

Jenning Leung had the last laugh against Fran Yu in their career games as the Black Knights finally won a PBA game at the expense of the Giant Risers.

Leung was efficient all game long, only needing 15 attempts for his 32 points, going 8-of-11 from long range, to outlast Yu, who exploded for 35 points of his own.

Yu actually tried to will Titan Ultra back in the game after Macau, banking on a 41-point second quarter, was pummeling them badly.

However, huge outside shots midway through the fourth quarter shut the door on the Giant Risers' comeback hopes.

Leung also had three rebounds, two assists, and one steal, while Damian Chongqui added 23 points, two rebounds, nine assists, and one steal as Macau ended a seven-game losing streak to start the conference despite



having only nine players available.

Tony Mitchell and Phoenix Shackleford each tallied an 18-point and 14-rebound double-double, with the latter flirting with a triple-double as he too had eight assists.

Yu went 9-of-15 from the field, 7-of-10 from the outside, including a perfect 2-for-2 clip on fours, with five rebounds, five assists, and three steals for Titan Ultra, which dropped to 2-6.

Jerrick Balanza added 20 points, four rebounds, and two assists off the bench.

In the nightcap, Phoenix put an end to Rain Or Shine's franchise-best seven-game winning streak to start the mid-season tournament with an 87-83 win.

Held to only 29 points in the first half, the Fuel Masters found their rhythm in the second half, even as the Elasto Painters lost

their offensive touch down the stretch.

Phoenix more than doubled its first-half output in the third quarter by dropping 32 points to eventually cut ROS's lead, which was as high as 18 points, 51-33, early in the period, down to three, 64-61, entering the fourth.

Tyler Tio, who missed three of four free throws to start the final frame, hit back-to-back threes to give the Fuel Masters the lead, 73-70, with 7:57 remaining.

The Elasto Painters stayed in the game thanks to back-to-back threes from Adrian Nocum that tied the game at 78-all with 5:20 to go.

However, a 9-1 run put Phoenix up for good, 87-79, with 2:56 to play.

ROS still had one last fight in them as Gian Mamuyac scored on back-to-back baskets that drew them to within four, 83-87, with 38

Golden Spikers stun Bulldogs, forces playoff for semis incentive

MANILA – University of Santo Tomas pulled off a stunning 30-28, 25-18, 22-25, 25-23 victory over defending champion National University at the Smart Araneta Coliseum Wednesday to force a playoff for the second seed and the twice-to-beat incentive in the UAAP Season 88 men's volleyball tournament.

The Golden Spikers and the Bulldogs ended the double-round elimination tied for second with similar 10-4 win-loss cards.

UST will enter the playoff on a four-game winning streak, while NU dropped its last two matches in the elimination round.

"I only did two things. The first one was to introduce fresh legs, and the second one was to remind them not to put pressure on themselves. That fourth set, we were up by two sets, why are they putting pressure on them? I think that's the main point of the fourth set," UST head coach Odjie Mamon said.

NU raced to a 13-6 advantage in the fourth set behind Choi Diao and Buds Buddin, but Season 87 Rookie of the Year JJ Macam drilled a crosscourt hit, Sherwin Umandal converted a through-the-block attack, while Josh Ybañez delivered

seconds to play. The team then forced a stop after James Dickey missed a hook shot that would have iced the game for Phoenix.

However, a miscommunication in the last play forced Caelan Tiongson to take a wild four-point attempt that hit the back of the rim as time expired.

Jason Perkins led the



ACE SPIKER. Josh Ybañez of University of Santo Tomas (right) tries to score against Jan Abanilla of National University in the UAAP Season 88 men's volleyball tournament at the Smart Araneta Coliseum on Wednesday (April 22, 2026). The Golden Spikers won, 30-28, 25-18, 22-25, 25-23, to force a playoff for the second seed and the last twice-to-beat incentive. (UAAP photo)

a spike that sealed the win after one hour and 52 minutes.

"I always believe in [Sherwin] really ever since we were rookies and in our sophomore year... I really see that he's just waiting for the time to prove people wrong that he can do it. I am so happy he performed like that," Ybañez, who delivered 27 points, 26 excellent receptions, and six digs, said.

Trevor Valera added 17 points followed by rookie Joncriz Ayco (10), Umandal (9), Gboy de Vega (8), and Vryvin Catinsag (6).

Skipper Dux Yambao dished out 31 excellent sets, while sophomore libero Edriel Alabar had 14 receptions and 12 digs.

Leo Ordiales led NU with 17 points and three excellent digs.

Fuel Masters, now at 5-3, with 20 points, three rebounds, and one assist, while Dickey added 17 points, 19 rebounds, two assists, and one block.

Tio finished with 16 points on 6-of-12 shooting, three rebounds, and five assists off the bench.

Nocum finished with 20 points, five

Congolese middle blocker Obed Mukaba chipped in 16 points, while Buddin and Jade Disquitado contributed 15 and 10 points, respectively.

Earlier, top seed Far Eastern University No. 4 survived Ateneo de Manila University, 29-27, 25-23, 15-25, 25-19, ahead of their semis duel.

Amet Bituin had 21 points, 14 receptions and six excellent digs, while Dryx Saavedra added 16 points for FEU, sporting a 13-1 slate and twice-to-beat advantage.

Nigerian wing spiker Aimar Okeke scored 24 points followed by Jian Salarzon (13) and Season 87 MVP Kennedy Batas (10) points for the Blue Eagles, who finished the eliminations with a 7-7 slate. (PNA)

rebounds, one assist, and three steals for the Elasto Painters in a game where Jaylen Johnson was limited to only 12 points and committed six turnovers.

The burly import, though, still had a shot at a triple-double with 19 rebounds and seven assists alongside two steals. (PNA)