

TRIKE debate hits SP snag

The debate whether or not the skyrocketing fee increases in tricycle operation in Dumaguete be repealed or amended hit a snag on second reading at the City Council Thursday.

The cause was the absence of two councilors, Antonio and Patrimonio, who earlier signified their thrust for the repeal, but they absented themselves during the important debate. They gave the reasons for their absence as "on official business."

Some responsible quarters in the city have opined that the issue has now become politicized in that those for repeal would be identified as "anti-administration" while those in favor of mere amendment be pro-administration.

HIDDEN AGENDA?
The critics say that there might be a hidden agenda somewhere. By "pooling" contributions of tricycle driv-



3,000 TRICYCLE A POTENT POLITICAL FORCE?

ers and operators who number to about 3000, they now represent a potent political force which can be utilized, if not influenced, in one way or the other during elections to vote for or against certain candidates.

Ironically, lawyers

within the City Council are divided on the issue because some legislators reportedly decide on the basis of their political affiliation rather than on the legality of the issue.

The issue on one hand is the proposed ordinance

repealing Ord. 88 authored by Kagawad Erames. He said "Ord 88 cannot stand as a complete piece of legislation without its aforesaid infirmed provisions; hence the entire ordinance 88 has to be stricken out as unconstitu-

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SU strike settled

Industrial peace once again reigns within the Silliman U campus as the Faculty Union, SUFA, has withdrawn its notice of strike filed with the mediation board, after both parties have come to a mutual agreement on the issues at hand.

Prof. Vic Aguilan, SUFA president and Atty. Riodil Montebon, chairman of the administration panel, confirmed the following agreement reached last Sunday, May 14. These are:

That the Union accepts the improved offer of P250.

across-the-board increase per month retroactive to June 2005. This means P3000 adjustment for each member;

Second, that the salary differentials shall be released on May 31, 2005; and Third,

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Drug convicts three

The possession and sale of shabu has caused the life imprisonment of one plus fines of over half a million pesos; and 12 years each of two other accused found in possession of the prohibited drug and fined P300,000 each.

Drug Court presiding Judge Cresencio Tan Jr meted life imprisonment on

one Joel Rebotazo for the illegal sale of .12grams of

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15-below jail-exempt



Minors, particularly those below 15 who are jailed for various offenses, will soon be released and instead subjected to reformation in a special center as provided for by the new law signed Monday by Pres. Arroyo. It is called "The Juvenile Justice Welfare Act of 2006," which is to be under the Dept of Justice. SEE STORY ON PAGE 2.

Hospital disciplines discourteous staff

A grieving mother who has infertility problems lost her second baby by miscarriage last May 9 and lodged a complaint that she was subjected to indignities by a hospital staff who commented that the dead fetus which was to be her second child was to be urinated upon (because the hospital ran out of formalin and or distilled water.)

As a result, the President and administrator of the Silliman Medical Center Foundation, Inc. (SMCFI) wrote the mother's lawyer informing her "that the employee concerned is now being subjected to appropriate disciplinary pro-

cesses of the institution as contained in our Code of Employee Discipline." He is suspended for ten days without pay.

Both the letter of the grieving mother and the reply of SUMCFI ad-

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