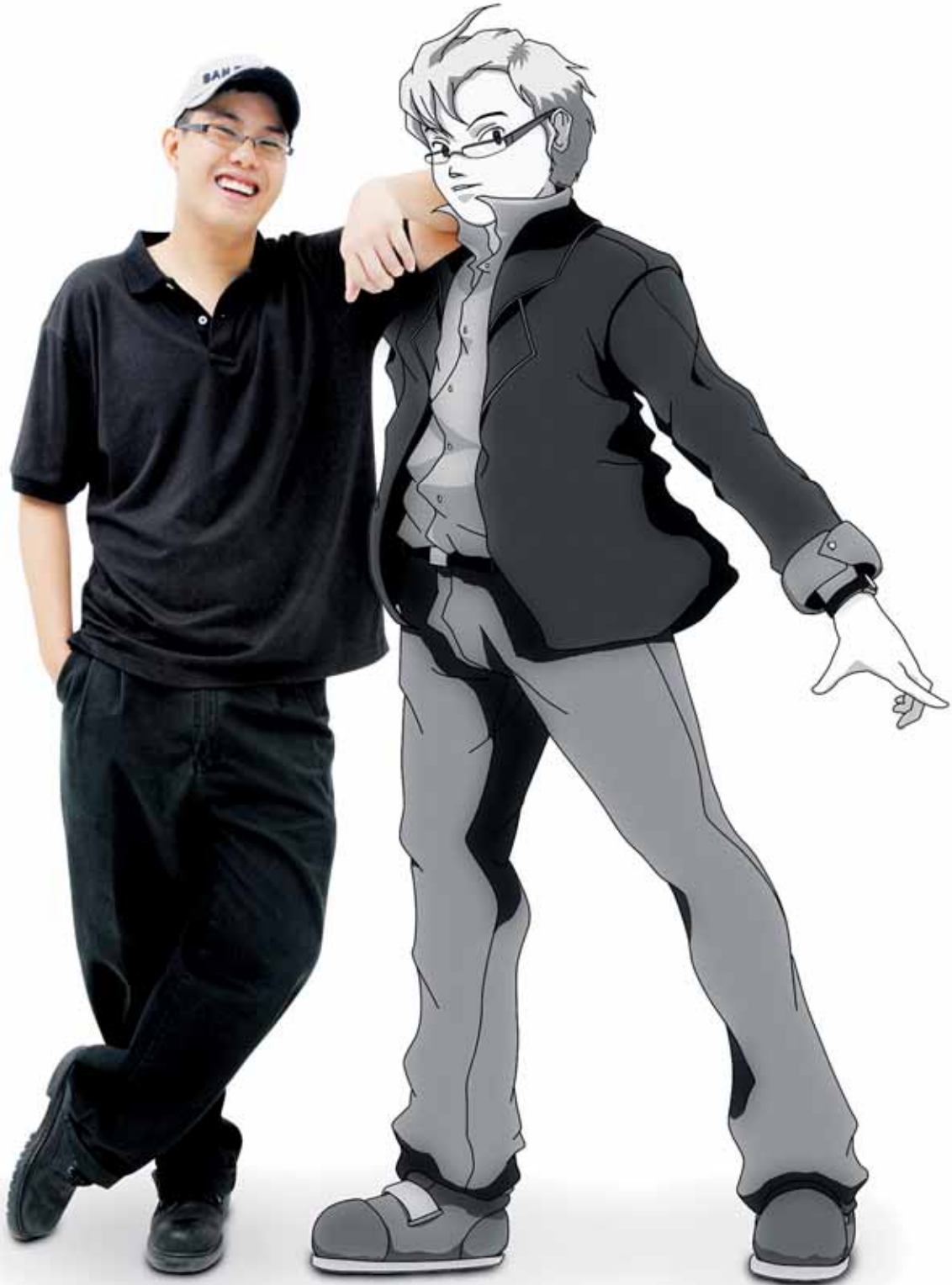


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NTU'S GRADUATING CLASS OF 2007

THE NEXT LAP



JAN

HIS WORLD ANIME-TED

A young Japanese girl called Lain, a human communications network known as the Wired and a bevy of philosophical issues first sparked Jan Han's interest in Japanese animation, or *anime*. It was by chance, however, that Jan discovered the *anime* series *Serial Experiments Lain*, along with its aforementioned plot elements. Jan admitted: "I bought it because I liked the cover." Finding inadequate avenues to discuss his new interest, Jan decided to

start his own *anime* blog, *THAT Anime Blog*. The site is only 10 months old and it already gets 5,000 to 6,000 hits every day. But do not call Jan an *otaku*, which refers to an obsessive fan who eats, sleeps, dreams and of course, watches *anime*. Laughing, Jan cited one reason why he would definitely not qualify as an *otaku*. "I have no idea who the different anime voice actresses are!"

Illustration Jan's alter-ego by Eddie Ching, animator, NTU Interaction & Entertainment Research Centre. Eddie is part of the team at NTU developing anime series for the Japanese market in collaboration with Japan's Anime International Company Inc. *Photo and digital imaging* by Jason Ho.

JUST ANOTHER ANIME FAN OR TRAILBLAZER? TURN THE PAGE



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