TWEET OF THE DAY
Singapore — Today our story has truly begun. Welcome WORLD, to the YOG 2010!
@anjaliragu
Anjali Raguraman, Student Reporter
THINGS NOT TO MISS DURING YOG

1. CHAT WITH CHAMPIONS
Bring your questions and cameras when you meet world champions Yelena Isinbayeva, Rania Elwani and Alexander Popov face to face.

2. HIT THE DANCE FLOOR
Enjoy Coca-Cola on tap and DJs spinning top tracks from 7 to 8pm nightly.

3. EXPLORE AN ISLAND
Build a raft on your Island Adventure — one of three Exploration Journeys to take.

4. TASTE THE WORLD
Sample Hungarian goulash and African peri-peri chicken in the dining room, where international cuisine is dished up daily.

5. WIN A WATCH
Receive a gift at each Culture and Education Programme. The top grab: a special edition Swatch watch.

6. MAKE NEW FRIENDS
Trade Olympic pins with old and new pals at the Merchandise Stall.

7. GET YOUR GAME ON
Kick back and catch a movie or challenge teammates to Nintendo Wii, Play Station 3 and Xbox 360 at the games station.

8. READ NEWS ABOUT YOU
The Young Olympian Daily is for you and about you. Pick up your copy every morning with your breakfast.

9. GO GLOBE TROTTING
The World Culture Village brings Africa, America, Oceania and Asia to your doorstep. Learn about global cultures from 14 to 16 August.

10. GET SMART WITH YOUR PHONE
Grab news and updates in the Digital Concierge — your personal Samsung Omnia Lite smartphone. It’s yours to keep!

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the first issue of the Young Olympian Daily! I am very excited to be leading a very talented team of students from various schools in Nanyang Technological University. We have been working feverishly over the past month to bring you this opening issue.

There are various sections such as the daily news briefs, athlete profiles and even a shout-out space on our back page where you can post messages to anyone in the Village. So look out for the paper every day, you never know when you may find yourself on our pages!

In this issue, we have a guide on how to say “hello” in seven different languages, so be prepared to try it out with your new friends! I also hope you’ll visit us at our sites facebook.com/youngolympian daily and twitter.com/yod_2010 where you can connect with us.

While we are the official Village newspaper, I would like to highlight that this is the first time the Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information is publishing a daily paper. Though new to the game, we are determined to get it right for you, and we hope that you will be there every step of the way.

Good luck in your quest for Olympic glory and happy reading.

Elizabeth Law
THE GAMES GO DIGITAL

BY CASSANDRA YEAP

For the first time in the history of the Olympic Games, athletes, not just officials, have received smart phones.

Each athlete’s personal Digital Concierge has been loaded with Games as well as non-Games related applications.

Listings of Singapore restaurants and shopping centres feature alongside competition events and results. Athletes can also chat among themselves on a mobile social network open to integration with Facebook and Twitter.

The organising committee made a consistent effort to reach out to the young via technology in the run-up to the Games.

Director of Technology Lim Bee Kwan said: “Today’s technology-savvy youth will find the mobile platform a more accessible means to obtain information.”

The Digital Concierge was designed to be a convenient means of communication. It provides up-to-date information and personalised schedules for sports and Culture and Education Programme events.

Besides active use of social media platforms like Facebook, youths the world over can engage in the WhyChGee community or quest in the futuristic Odyssey2010 game.

The Trinidad and Tobago girls football team was among the first to get their hands on the phone.

Although touch screen phones are already popular in their home country, the girls appeared fascinated with their devices and delighted at the prospect of taking them home.

The political science student from NUS, Radhika Mittal, said: “Although I anticipate challenges like language barriers, I want to listen to views and thoughts from diverse groups.”

Another speaker, Pushapaela Prabaskar, 20, an electrical engineering student from NUS, said her aim was to educate athletes on stigmatisation, prevention, transmission and the difference between HIV and AIDS.

She added: “We want them to know the HIV situation in their home countries and that they can be HIV youth ambassadors to educate fellow youths about the situation.”

THE difference between HIV and AIDS

BY DARREN TAN

The audience listened with rapt attention as 21-year-old volunteer Radhika Mittal shared about the difference between HIV and AIDS.

The political science student from the National University of Singapore (NUS) was one of the many YOG volunteers who were part of the Stay & Play programme, a preview of the Youth Olympic Village and its activities.

Hold over a weekend in July, the programme saw over 1,000 people visiting the Village to try out the amenities and games that the athletes would be enjoying.

She had been trained by The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and will be conducting workshops for the young athletes to highlight HIV and how it can be prevented.

Radhika said: “Although I anticipate challenges like language barriers, I want to listen to views and thoughts from diverse groups.”

The difference between HIV and AIDS

BY CERLYN CHIA

From keychains worth $2.90 to commemorative gold coins going for $850, YOG merchandise is flying off the shelves.

Souvenirs featuring mascots Lyo and Merly are the best-selling ones, according to Ms Judith Baumeyer, Head of Licensing and Merchandising of the Singapore Youth Olympic Games Organising Committee.

All this is well and good. But secretly, we wish there were some items for sale that, sadly, are nowhere to be found in the merchandise stalls.

Worth $850? You bet!

BY CERLYN CHIA

Olympic Games Organising Committee (NGO) stickers and memorabilia were handed out to the YOG volunteers during a training session.

The council has already given them another 500 stickers to hand out to the athletes.

The NGO also plans to create more cards for the volunteers to use in the village.

The cards will feature messages from the YOG volunteers to the athletes.

What we would pay $850 for

1. Usain Bolt’s sweat soaked jersey
2. Michael Phelps’ size 14 shoes
3. Asafa Powell’s lucky charm: a necklace in Jamaican colours
4. Yelena Isinbayeva’s gorgeous poneytail
5. Life-sized Lyo and Merly
The world’s fastest man, the king of the pool and the pole-vaulting legend. Usain Bolt, Michael Phelps and Yelena Isinbayeva have rewritten Olympic record books multiple times and they are doing it again.

The trio are Athlete Ambassadors for the inaugural Youth Olympic Games (YOG) in Singapore. Their mission: to encourage and inspire youths to participate in sports and to adopt and live by the Olympic values of Excellence, Friendship and Respect.

The International Olympic Committee hopes that they would use their struggles to inspire young athletes.

Phelps used to suffer from attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder as a child. Bolt and Isinbayeva struggled to adapt to new sports having crossed over from cricket and gymnastics respectively.

However the obstacles they faced during their youth did not prove to be a stumbling block, as evident in their later achievements.

Isinbayeva said matter-of-factly: “Well, there are not only obstacles in sport, but also in life. What I hope to do in Singapore is [to] give the young athletes the benefit of my personal experience and to tell them that things do not always go as planned, that there are many ups and downs in sports and in life. What you need to do each time you are faced with obstacles or misfortunes is to learn from the experience and try not to repeat it.”

Although not every athlete will return home victorious with an Olympic medal, Isinbayeva said that “they should not
be disheartened and instead make the best out of this golden opportunity to gain more experience in their respective sports.”

This was echoed by Phelps who said that “the Youth Olympic Games is an excellent initiative, not only for the athletes competing but also those who are inspired to get into sport and be more active.”

“Even though I can’t make it in person because I’ll be competing at the US Nationals and (hopefully) Pan-Pacific (Championships), I will definitely be there in spirit,” posted Phelps on his Facebook page. “I wish all the athletes good luck and most of all, have fun!”

Along with these three iconic Athlete Ambassadors, a group of Athlete Role Models will be mentoring the young athletes. Bolt said: “I know how important it is to have mentors and role models when you are young to help give you focus and dreams to aspire to.”

All three champions started out young, which makes one wonder how their lives would have been different if the Youth Olympics Games existed then.

“Age is not an issue
Throughout history, youths have triumphed at the Olympic Games. It seemed that age never stood in the way of medals until age restrictions were imposed. Kudos to the young Olympians who made it in their time.

“"I know how important it is to have mentors and role models when you are young to help give you focus and dreams to aspire to.” – USAIN BOLT

4 months
MAGDA JULIN
Sweden figure skater Magda Julin competed at the 1920 Antwerpen Games while four months pregnant. Her child could be the youngest to ever win a gold medal at the Olympics.

10 years
DIMITRIOS LOUNDRAS
Greek gymnast Dimitrios Loundras was only 10 years 218 days when his team won a bronze medal in the parallel bars in the 1896 Summer Olympics in Athens. He remains the youngest medallist and competitor in Olympic history.

12 years
INGE SORENSEN
Inge Sorensen from Denmark is the youngest known female medallist in an individual event. She was only 12 years and 24 days old when she clinched the bronze medal in the 200m breaststroke, at the 1936 Berlin Games.

13 years
MARJORIE GESTRING
Marjorie Gestring of the USA is the youngest ever Olympic Gold medallist, who at the age of 13 years and 268 days, won the women’s three meter springboard diving event at the 1936 Berlin Games.

14 years
NADIA COMANECI
At only 14 years and 252 days old, Romanian gymnast Nadia Comaneci scored a perfect 10.0 score on the uneven bars and went on to win three gold medals in 1976 Montreal games.

15 years
MICHAEL PHELPS
Michael Phelps qualified for the 2000 Summer Olympics at the age of 15 and became the youngest male to make a USA Olympic swim team in 68 years.
VILLAGE HIGHLIGHTS

With so much happening at the village, we identify seven distinctive features of the village for you to check out and help you navigate your way around.

DANCE CLUB
Rock the dance floor every night with local DJs at the Dance Club located opposite the Village Gym. Coaches, don’t panic. Only Coke and Coke Zero will be served.

WORLD CULTURE VILLAGE
Immerse yourself in the cultures and practices of the different countries and respect the diversity each has to offer.

TOP 3 OLYMPIC MOVIES, SONGS, BOOKS

Nothing brings people together like Olympic sports. This is often spoofed in popular culture. Here are the top three movies, books and songs about the Games.

MOVIES
1. BLADES OF GLORY
Figure skating gets a twist in this Will Ferrell vehicle as rival skaters work together to achieve glory on ice.

2. CHARIOTS OF FIRE
An Oscar-winning classic that shares the tale of two British runners competing in the 1924 Olympics, balancing their passion for sport with religion and friendship.

3. MUNICH
Munich follows the revenge mission of a group of Mossad agents for the eleven Israeli athletes murdered at the 1972 Olympics.

SONGS
1. HAND IN HAND - 1988 SEOUL
The most commercially successful Olympic theme song, it was not sung by superstars but by the Koreans.

2. BARCELONA - 1992
A grand classical rock opera piece, it is the only official theme song not performed at the opening ceremony due to singer Freddie Mercury’s death from AIDS.

3. REACH - 1996 ATLANTA
An uplifting and inspiring number by Gloria Estefan, you would be ready to overcome anything by the end of the song.
ATHLETES’ CHALLENGE
Take part in the Culture & Education programme, make some new friends, and redeem free limited YOG collectibles.

BOOTHs
Come learn more about the world that we live at the World Cultural Village booths in the Village Square.

Coca-cola
Coca-cola, the longest continuous corporate partner of the Olympic Games, has been a sponsor since the 1928 Amsterdam Games.

Digtial Concierge
Your handy guide to the Games, including information on competition venues, food and activities within the Village Square.

Everyone
The theme song for the Games, performed by artists representing each of the five different continents.

Food
What is Singapore without food? There will be different types of cuisines so athletes will never get bored.

Greenlite
Find out more about this bus in the Youth Olympic Village map (left).

Heartlands
Most competitions will be held in the heartlands of Singapore. This is your chance to explore the heart of our sunny little island.

Interaction
Meet, greet, befriend, repeat.

Journey of the Youth Olympic Flame
To get to Singapore for the YOG, the Youth Olympic Flame traveled across five countries in each continent, starting from 23 July in Ancient Olympia, Greece.

Kunalan
A former Olympian and the fastest man in Singapore, C. Kunalan is one of the two Deputy Mayors for the Youth Olympic Village.

Lyo & Merly
Our two official mascots are based on Singapore’s iconic merlion.

Nanjing
The venue for the next Youth Olympic Games in 2024.

Once-in-a-lifetime
Most of the athletes in the 2010 Youth Olympic games will be overaged for the 2014 YOG. This means that this Games would be a once-in-a-lifetime event.

Photoscape
Choose a photograph to be remembered by in the Youth Olympic Park.

Queue
Queue to get on the shuttle buses; queue to get your food; queue for security clearance; Singapore is a nation of queues.

Recreation
There will be Wii and X-Box gaming within the Village for your entertainment.

Singapore
A fine garden city.

Tiger
While Singapore’s official emblem is the lion, our city state’s favourite beer is Tiger.

Universality
To give every country a chance to be represented, special Universality places have been set aside for National Olympic Councils which traditionally send smaller delegations to the Games.

Volunteers
Friendly people from all walks of life are helping out with the Games.

Wireless Internet
Wireless Internet coverage will be available throughout the Village Square as well as common areas in the Residential Halls.

X-Men
There are only six athletes in the 2010 YOG whose surnames begin with X.

Yelena
Yelena Isinbayeva — YOG ambassador and first woman to clear the 5.00m barrier in the pole vault.

Zimbabwe
Their football team has claimed that they will thrash Singapore. It awaits to be seen.
YOUNG OLYMPIAN DAILY

journey of the torch

FLAME ON

The Young Olympian Daily photojournalists were on the trail to capture moments from the Journey of the Youth Olympic Flame.

Singapore Finance Minister Tharman Shanmugaratnam officiates the launch of the fifth day of the Journey of the Youth Olympic Flame at SAFITI Military Institute. PHOTO: EUNICE CHAN

Nanyang Girls’ High School student Chan Hui-En Aurelia receives the torch from Keith Wong Jen Hin from Nanyang Primary School. The last day of the Youth Olympic Torch relay starts off with a bang at the NYGH campus, attracting hundreds of students from the two schools as well as students from Assumption English School. PHOTO: XUE JIANYUE
Yishun residents cheer as the Youth Olympic Flame as it passed through their neighbourhood on August 11.

Photo: Xue Jianyue

**Legendary torches of yore**

The essence of the Games is embodied in the torch. 16 Olympic Torches, dating back to 1936, are on exhibition in Singapore. Here’s why these are special.

**BEIJING 2008**

The Beijing Olympic Torch is shaped like a paper scroll, which is one of the four great inventions of ancient China. The top half of the torch is embossed with ‘lucky clouds’, which are often depicted in Chinese mythology. It was hoped that these auspicious clouds would bring blessings and harmony to the Games.

The torch was made out of recycled materials and fueled by propane, in line with the pro-environment message.

**ATHENS 2004**

The Athens Torch travelled across all six habitable continents (excluding Antarctica), the first time the flame had done so.

Starting in Olympia, the flame returned to Greece after circling the globe, the first for an Olympic Torch.

It was also the first time the torch travelled to Africa, India and South America. Inspired by the olive leaf, the torch design looked as if it rose directly from the torchbearer’s hand.

**TOKYO 1964**

Tokyo 1964 also marks the first time the Olympic Games were hosted in Asia. The Olympic flame torchbearer who lit the cauldron, Yoshinori Sakai, was born in Hiroshima, August 6, 1945, the day of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. He was chosen as a representative of Japan’s post-war reconstruction and peace.

Tokyo was supposed to host the 1940 Games, but the honour was passed to Helsinki because of the Second Sino-Japanese War, and subsequently cancelled because of World War II.

**Melbourne 1956**

During the torch relay, when the flame was entering Sydney, Australian veterinary student Barry Lakin carried a fake Olympic Flame and fooled the mayor of Sydney. The fake torch was made out of a silver-painted chair leg with a pudding can at the top. A pair of kerosene-soaked underpants was stuffed into the can and set on fire. Lakin masqueraded as a relay runner and presented the ‘torch’ to the mayor. He got away before anyone got wise about the matter. Lakin later claimed he did this in protest because the torch relay was a “Nazi invention”.

**BERLIN 1936**

For the first time in modern Olympic history, the flame was lit by fire directly in the Olympia, where the ancient Olympic Games were held. It was during the Berlin Games that the torch relay was first introduced. This is the first time that the Games were conducted during the war. This is also the Games that introduced many filming techniques related to sports, as devised by German filmmaker Leni Riefenstahl.

Nazi origins or not, the torch relay continues to this day and remains the highlight of every Olympic Games.

**Torch exhibition details**

**More than winning**

Versus Youth Olympic Village
Date: 13 - 25 August
Time: 9am to 8:30pm daily
Open to residents and visitors to the YOV
Torches on exhibition

**Blazing the trail**

Versus International Convention Centre
Level 3
Date: 15 - 25 August
Time: 9am to 9:30pm daily
Free admission
Torches on exhibition

Some 2,400 torchbearers conveyed the Youth Olympic Flame around Singapore over 6 days, bringing the spirit of Olympism deep into the heartlands of Singapore.

Photo: Lam Yarn

Multiple ligament tears sustained during a dress rehearsal of the Games’ Opening Ceremony did not stop graduate student and YOG volunteer Raman Venkateshwaran, 43, from completing his 100-metre journey with the Flame at Nanyang Technological University on the morning of August 12.

Photo: Eunice Chan
**DAY ONE OF YOG**

One day before the start of the Games, photojournalist Ng Jun Sen was in the Village Square, catching the buzz...

10.45am
Arrived at the Youth Olympic Village. I’m photographing the handball team from Team Singapore for a feature!

11.14am
Spotted the Bolivian athlete enjoying a game of pool. Harry Zegarra, a footballer, pots a ball into the side pocket. It’s a goal!

12.24am
Lunchtime! Athletes gather at the dining hall. The pizza sure looks good.

3.16pm
Young volunteers streaming into the heart of the Village Square, carrying tiles to assemble the tile mosaic. One of them shouts for help. Looks heavy.

5.54pm
Carlos Arthur Nuzman, Chairman of the 2016 Summer Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, spotted walking around the Village Square! A squad of cameramen is seen following him.

8.03pm
The USA Girls Swimming Team playing Wii Sports in the Games Room. Training, perhaps?

8.30pm
A cacophony of percussion beats filters out of the Village Square. It is the start of the Wowcome Youth Session!

9.48pm
From the back of the stage, Yelena Isinbayeva steps out to raucous cheers from her athlete fans.

An athlete plays spectator for a change during the Wowcome Youth Session.

**Hostels go for green**

**BY CLARA LOCK**

Besides competing in their sporting events during the day, athletes should also expect to engage in a little friendly competition after hours at the Youth Olympic Village.

In a step towards environmental conservation, athletes have been strongly encouraged to lower the overall usage of their water and energy consumption in their residence halls.

The green initiative, spearheaded by the Singapore Youth Olympic Games Organising Committee (SYOGOC), is designed to encourage all the athletes to live in an environmentally-friendly manner as possible.

Tabulated results of the Village Energy Challenge will be published every three days on the information display panels found at each residence block.

Volunteers from Nanyang Technological University’s (NTU) Earthlink Society are helping to tabulate the water and energy consumption of the various residence halls.

In addition, they will come up with energy-saving tips that will be presented on the information panels — essentially 42-inch television screens.

The tips will be updated regularly by Mr Vincent Soh, an NTU alumni and former member of the Earthlink Society.

The 25-year-old graduate said: “I am passionate about environmental issues. “I want my juniors to understand that if you want to see a change in the world, you have to start doing it yourself.”

**Gifts, games and grins at Athletes’ Challenge**

**BY CHERIE THIO**

Simply take the athlete’s oath and get a free cover for your Samsung smartphone. This is one of the many collectibles that can be redeemed when athletes complete different activities for the Athletes’ Challenge under the Culture and Education Programme (CEP).

The Athletes’ Challenge is a motivational system for athletes to attend as many CEP events as possible by rewarding them with special edition collectibles.

There are 3,600 sets of collectibles for the Athletes’ Challenge, one for each athlete.

Mr Mathieu Pourret, Head of Athlete’s Experience, said: “The athletes are excited about going for the activities and getting the collectibles.”

These youth-oriented collectibles were designed specially for the Youth Olympics.

Ticking off every item on the Challenge passport will qualify the athlete to redeem a limited edition Singapore 2010 Swatch watch.

The organisers declined to name the price of the watch, but said that there are only 3,600 such watches in the world.

The CEP events have received a warm response during briefings. Athletes are especially keen on the Island Adventure, an excursion to offshore island Pulau Ubin, where they build their own raft.

The organisers have been working on the CEP activities, including the Athletes’ Challenge, for the last one and a half years.

The Athletes’ Challenge was also put on a trial run during the Asian Youth Games in 2009 and last year’s YOG Friendship Camp.

The collectibles redemption booth is located in the middle of the Village Square and will be open from 8am-10pm.

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T - 24 HOURS TO...
Going places, learning cultures, making friends

BY CLARA LOCK

A trip to Mauritius in March this year provided insight into the culture of another nation. But for the 10 students from Queenstown Secondary School (QTSS), their best memories are of the friendships forged during interactions with local students.

15-year-old Teo Jian Min fondly recalled working together with five other Mauritian students to complete an obstacle course and answer trivia questions about the Youth Olympic Games (YOG). This was one of the activities the students of St. Marie’s College organised for the 10 QTSS sports leaders who visited them. “I enjoyed the teamwork we had while running around the school,” said Jian Min, whose team came in first.

The group of secondary three students visited Mauritius as part of the Friends@YOG programme. Under this programme, local schools are twinned with those from various National Olympic Committees. This initiative, spearheaded by the Singapore Youth Olympic Games Organising Committee, intends to “develop friendship and collaboration between young people in Singapore and the world,” according to Education Minister Ng Eng Hen. Through activities such as exchange programmes, projects and presentations, students will learn more about the country they are paired with and the YOG.

At home, the Singapore 2010 Friendship Camp held in December last year fulfilled similar goals. The camp brought together 500 local and international athletes, allowing them to interact over a five-day duration.

Held at the Singapore Sports School, participants from a variety of disciplines tried their hands at non-Olympic sports like choukball and sepak-takraw. Participants also got a chance to bond over outdoor adventure activities like rope course challenges and rock climbing. Held at Pulau Ubin, these activities placed athletes under circumstances that promoted team synergy and unity.

While the athletes embarked on the camp with some amount of awkwardness, there were hugs exchanged all around when the time came to bid farewell. “I feel very sad,” said Ahmed Shehu Bello, 17, whose team came in first. “I’ll miss all my friends. I’ve had so much fun with them and we’ve become so close. I don’t want to leave.”

HELLO! My name is...

Use this little phrase to make new friends at the Games!

FRENCH:
Bonjour! Je m’appelle (Bon-ZHUR Znul mah-FELL)

SPANISH:
Hola! Me llamo (OH-lah Meh YAH-moh)

ARABIC:
مرحبا، اسمي (Mar-ba-bah Ahm tahm all-lay-koom)

RUSSIAN:
Здравствуйте, меня зовут (Zdrazhvoot-yeh, meny-yoo zo-voot)

CHINESE:
你好！我的名字是 (NEE hao! Wo de Ming-zi shi)

Learn local lingo!

Singlish is the English you never knew. It is the local version of English mixed with Hokkien (a local dialect) and Malay. Have fun trying out these colloquial terms!

MAKAN (MAH-KHAN)
Singlish: I'm hungry, can we go makan now?
English: I'm really hungry, can we eat now?

KAYPOH (KAY-POE)
Singlish: Look out, that kaypoh person is here!
English: Look out, that busybody is here!

SHIOK (SHEE-OAK)
Singlish: This fried rice is so shioh! I want another plate!
English: This fried rice is so delicious! I want another plate!

CHOE (CHO-OPE)
Singlish: Let’s chope this table for ourselves!
English: Let’s reserve this table for ourselves!

KIUSS (KEE-AH-SUE)
Singlish: Those are the kiuuss people who brought tents in case it rains.
English: Those are the people who are so scared of losing out, they brought tents in case it rains.

Some say this original Singlish word captures the essence of being Singaporean. I disagree. Now excuse me while I pack umbrellas, raincoats, caps and towels — Yahoo says it is going to rain tomorrow.