Food paradise...

A team of 700 chefs will serve up dishes from around the world at Games Village

A three-tonne stainless steel sculpture now takes pride of place at the Nanyang Technological University, which houses the world’s first Youth Olympic Village.

President S R Nathan, third from left, yesterday unveiled The Wind and Wings yesterday.

The sculpture, by award-winning Singapore artist Yeo Chee Kiong, takes on different shades of colour at night. During the day, its bubble-like formations mirror the surrounding greenery. From certain angles, the sculpture appears like a newborn butterfly, symbolising the transformative experience of competing young athletes.

The sculpture took some 14-man hours over 88 days to complete.

With Mr Nathan are, from left, Singaporean artist Yeo Chee Kiong, chairman of the Board of Trustees of NTU Mr Koh Boon Hwee, Mayor of the Youth Olympic Games Village Teo Ser Luck, president of NTU Dr Su Guanying and secretary to the university Anthony Yeo.

A TEAM OF 700 CHEFS WILL SERVE UP DISHES FROM AROUND THE WORLD AT GAMES VILLAGE

SINGAPORE — Food lovers, rejoice! A team of 700 chefs from all over the world will descend on Singapore to prepare a gastronomic feast for the 1,000 athletes competing in the Youth Olympic Games.

Adhe saruari and dji djar

call them or email adhe.saruari@washingtonpost.com

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The chefs will work on a 10-day rotation, where it will change every day before reverting back to the list of dishes served on the first day.

The chefs are from around the world, including Sweden, Turkey, France, Africa, and many more. They have been chosen for their expertise in preparing dishes from their respective cuisines.

“Since athletes need to meet special dietary requirements, I had to ensure that the method of preparing the meals, the ingredients used were interesting and that it gives them a good variety of what they eat,” said Mr Francisco.

“The ingredients for the dishes are flown in from all over the world. Most meat will come from Australia and New Zealand with spices from India and Indonesia and vegetables from Malaysia and Thailand.”

The food will be served from 11am to 3pm, and dinner will start at 5pm and end by 11pm. In case the teenagers are hungry, they can head to the Recovery Bar where energy bars and fruits will be stocked.

The Youth Olympics will be held during the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan, which begins on Aug 10 and ends on Sept 9.

Mr Francisco says it will not be an issue. “Breakfast will be served from 4am to 7am so that gives the athletes ample time to have their pre-dawn meals,” he said.

“When it is time for them to break fast, a food packet containing dates, fruits and water will be handed to them if they are still at the competition venues. Of course, all the food served is halal-certified.”

„ NOT THE BEST ROUTINE ... 24 ‟

„ TICKETS 70 PER CENT SOLD ... 24 „

„ INTO THE FINAL STRIGHT ... 25 „

„ SOMALIA WILL BE AT YOG 25 „

„ IT’S ALMOST A SISTER ACT 26 „

TO SEE ALL THE WORLD TO SEE...

2,400 torchbearers to take part in YOG torch relay

SINGAPORE — The first Olympic torch relay here will see some 2,400 torchbearers carrying the flame on its journey from the heartlands to the financial district and Marina Bay, passing schools, parks and iconic landmarks along their way.

The Singapore Youth Olympic Games Organising Committee (Sygoc) said the torchbearers are between 11 and 82 years old, ranging from athletes to people from the business community.

Among them is former hockey player Aji Singh, 82, the oldest torchbearer in the relay. Born in Malaya, he moved to Singapore at 23 and represented Malaya in hockey at the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games and is still an executive committee member of the Singapore Olympians Association.

Torchbearers from 39 different countries are also taking part in the relay, reflecting international participation in the YOG and Singapore’s cosmopolitan city.

A Flame Arrival Ceremony will be held at the National University of Singapore this Friday.

More than 750 performers will put up a spectacular show with a float parade and choreographed mass formations to welcome the Youth Olympic Flame to Singapore after its journey to five cities across the globe.

Members of the public can view the entire torch relay route and the list of torchbearers at the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games website.

They will also be able to track the movements of the Youth Olympic Flame ‘live’ via GPS.

TO SEE THE TORCH RELAY ROUTE www.singapore2010.siy/yof

ROAD CLOSURES

A rehearsal for one leg of the Youth Olympic Flame journey here will be conducted today from 3pm to 7pm.

Some roads in the areas of Pasir Ris, Tampines and Bedok will be affected.

Auxiliary police officers will be stationed at affected road junctions to guide motorists.

The organisers urge motorists to plan their travel and use alternative routes to avoid these stretches of road, as well as to tune in to the radio for the latest traffic updates.

For information on the affected roads, you can refer to the Singapore 2010 website (www.singapore2010.sg) and Singapore Police Force website (www.sfp.gov.sg).

Members of the public may contact the Singapore Youth Olympic Games Organising Committee at 6471 5588 or the Traffic Police at 1800-547-1818 with enquiries.