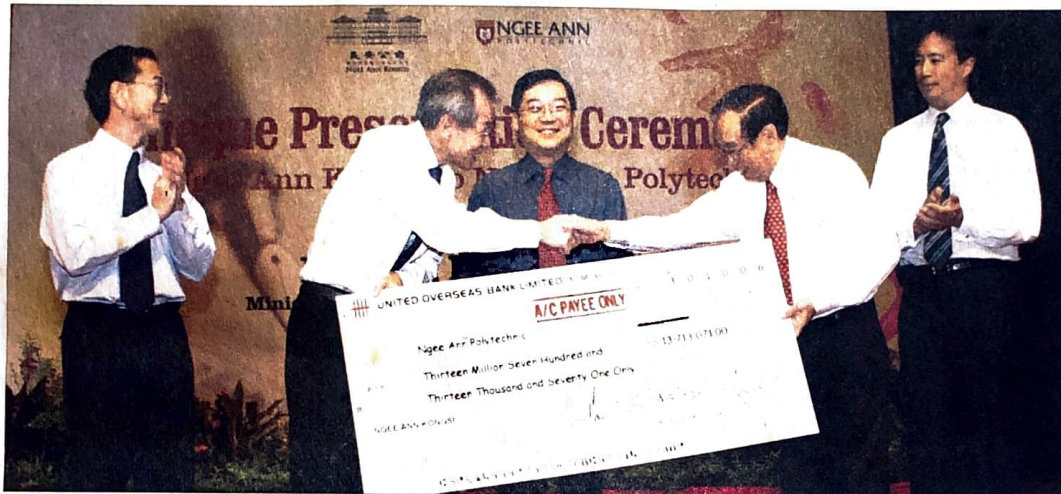


Ngee Ann Kongsi's \$13.7 Million Boosts Overseas Projects

It has been four decades since the Ngee Ann Kongsi started donating funds to Ngee Ann Polytechnic. This fund has enabled the students to live their poly years to the fullest. SYED ARAFAT reports.



KONGSI'S RISING CONTRIBUTIONS: The \$13.7 million cheque being presented at the NP Convention Centre will bring the total to \$153 million. (Picture: Courtesy of NP CorpComm01)

Student development projects received a major boost with Ngee Ann Kongsi's donation of \$13.7 million.

Mr Mun Kwok On, Director of Student Development & Alumni Relations (SDAR), explained that the Kongsi has aided in the funding of NP's overseas programmes.

"This year, 3,300 students will take part in overseas programmes, with many of them receiving funding support from the Kongsi's contributions," he said. This is an increase to 75 percent of the polytechnic's cohort, up from last year's 68 percent of about 3,100 students.

Among those who will benefit from the contributions are 75 final-year students from Chinese Studies (CHS) who will be going to Zhejiang University City College for an immersion programme next year.

Mr Kwek Chin Ling, a CHS lecturer involved in the China trip, said, "There will be some difficulties and challenges trying to fit in but it'll be beneficial for the students. They will be there first hand to understand and immerse themselves into the Chinese culture."

One of the students excited about the learning trip is second-year CHS student Nicholas Lim.

"It'll be a great experience that I'm looking forward to. While it's going to be a hard time trying to communicate [with] the people there, it'll definitely be fun at the same time trying to improve my language," the 19-year-old said.

Besides education, the donations from the Kongsi also subsidises community projects. Eight NP students from the Divers Club were given financial assistance for a trip to Pulau Aur, a diving spot off Malaysia's east coast. The students were there to protect the coral reef from boat anchors by attaching ropes to buoys.

On top of overseas trips, the Kongsi's contribution also supports the growth of entrepreneurial spirit in NP. Introduced in 2002, NP's EnterpriZe! scheme provides

a grant of up to \$3,000 to budding entrepreneurs. This allows them to launch their ideas in the market without the financial handicap.

Ms Dorene Yeo, a lecturer from the School of Business & Accountancy (BA) and manager of EnterpriZe!, explained that the programme has produced outstanding business models since it began.

This year, 3,300 students will take part in overseas programmes, with many of them receiving funding support made possible with the Kongsi's contributions.

Mr Mun Kwok On
Director of Student Development &
Alumni Relations (SDAR)

She quoted the example of BVA Studios, a company run by Clement Lim, a final-year Business Studies (BS) student. The company provides web development, IT maintenance and web hosting services to non-profit organisations and small-medium enterprises (SMEs).

"The company's annual turnover is about \$30,000 to \$50,000 and he now manages his start-up full-time as his Industrial Attachment Project (IAP)...," Ms Yeo said.

Ian Poh, 19, a second-year Accountancy (ACC) student who started BookBuzz, an e-portal that buys and sells used textbooks, felt that the grant provided has been beneficial for him.

"Now that an opportunity has been presented by the school, it's up to the individual whether he wants to seize it or

not," he said.

Over the years, contributions from the Kongsi have been used for three main purposes - funding of student development programmes, both local and overseas, promoting student entrepreneurship, and to also assist research and development among staff.

This year, the cheque was presented during a private ceremony at NP's convention centre on October 30 with Mr Gan Kim Yong, Minister of State for Education and Manpower, as the guest-of-honour (GOH). Mr Lim Kee Ming, President of Ngee Ann Kongsi, presented the cheque to Mr Tan Hup Fui, Chairman of Ngee Ann Polytechnic Council.

In his speech at the event, Mr Gan highlighted the important role that Ngee Ann Kongsi has played in the establishment of NP.

He said, "The philanthropic foundation has not only contributed money to help fund student programmes, but [has] also provided much of the land for the polytechnic's campus. Many students have benefited from the Kongsi's unwavering support for education."

Mr Tan, who also gave a speech, commended NP's ability to provide a holistic education for students as well as proper resources for the school.

"The growing stature of the Ngee Ann graduate would not have been possible, if not for the invaluable support and contributions of our many educational partners, as well as the careful planning and purposeful deployment of campus resources by the Polytechnic to support the total learning experience for our students," Mr Tan said.

Since 1967, the foundation made annual contributions of \$100,000. Then, since 1972, the Kongsi upped its gift to 75 percent of its income each year.

In all, some \$153 million have been given since 1967.



DEGREE TIE-UP FOR ECH
Page 2



NP SCORES WITH NIKE
Page 7

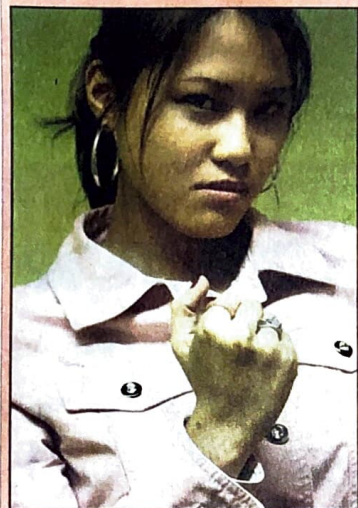


SINGING FOR CHARITY
Page 13



MAN OF IRON
Page 14

If I Were An Heiress...



BY CHARLOTTE CHOO
charlotte.tribune@gmail.com

There was no denying that my eyes lit up with dollar signs the moment I heard of the whopping sum of money that Ngee Ann Kongsi had bestowed upon our school. To my mind, Ngee Ann Kongsi is much like the benevolent wealthy parent that spawned

Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP) and provides NP with an annual allowance.

Perhaps I have an over-imaginative mind, or have been living in a fantasy world after reading too many 'chick lit' novels, but the situation seems reminiscent of the chapter in which the ordinary high school girl finds out that she is, in fact, an heiress to a grand fortune.

Over the last seven weeks of work life, I have accumulated \$0 of savings and have, in fact, been eating into my personal savings. Needless to say, such a state of affairs claws at my poor miserly heart.

Tired, overworked and stressed out on one of my days back from the office, I could not help but let myself ponder over the thought of how life would be like if I were to inherit a fortune.

No more picking fish instead of chicken because it costs \$1.50 less, no more late sleepless night of editing and writing, and most importantly, no more waking up looking like the living dead with black (yes, black!) circles around my eyes. I have to admit, right now, the well-appointed life of luxury as an heiress and socialite looks extremely attractive.

Alas, I am not an heiress, but a poverty-stricken polytechnic student dependent on a weekly allowance, and imagination is my only excess. Nevertheless, a tight budget is no real deterrent to the resolute mind.

New Revolving Age's (NRA) Danzation performance for one is a luxury that even I can afford. Taking a break from study to immerse oneself in the enjoyment of music and dance not only disperses stress but also inspires the mind.

Being ordinary students sure did not stop 50 students from the School of Business & Accountancy (BA) from showing their faces at the IMF-World Bank Annual Meetings (IMF) held here in Singapore. Neither did it prevent 24 students from the School of Film & Media Studies from filming a four-part mini-series in Shaoxing, China.

To be honest, being a student is a blast. My jaunt in NP has been wonderful for me so far, but if life were a rollercoaster, the tram I am in is only just approaching the big loopy loop.

Leaving polytechnic in anticipation of entering university is like leaving the safe straight rails and heading towards the treacherous corkscrew knowing that my organised life will be thrown upside down. This is why NP's efforts to help soon-to-be graduates through events such as Job Central Career Fair 2006 and EDvance 2006 are so important. As it is, the future ahead is sure to be dotted with unexpected bumps and hitches.

So keep holding on, fellow students, the ride of your life has just begun. ■

Tribune is a publication by third-year Print Journalism students of the Diploma in Mass Communication course

TRIBUNE
Ngee Ann Polytechnic's campus newspaper

Advisors: Sing-Fun Poh Yoke
Robin Yee

Editors: Charlotte Choo
Agnes Koh
Gabriel Wong

Designer: Nessi Esteffa

Advertising: Fiona Jacob
Serene Loo

School of Film & Media Studies
Blk 52, #07-01, Ngee Ann Polytechnic
535 Clementi Road

Letters should include your full name, contact number and school. The editorial team reserves the right to edit all letters where necessary.

For more stories: <http://www.theurbanwire.com>

Tribune, Oct to Dec 2006

Good News For Early Childhood Education Students As Overseas Degree Confirmed

BY CHONG YI HAN
yihan.tribune@gmail.com

There is reason to rejoice for Early Childhood Education (ECH) students as the first polytechnic degree tie-up under a new initiative has been announced, providing a full-time degree course for those who want to further their studies in this field.

This new tie-up will be a tripartite agreement between Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP), Wheelock College in Boston, and the Regional Training and Resource Centre in Early Childhood Care and Education for Asia (RTRC Asia).

The announcement was made on October 2, after a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed by NP Principal Mr Chia Mia Chiang, Professor Joan Bergstrom, director of the Center for International Education, Leadership, and Innovation at Wheelock College, and Ms Adeline Sum, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of National Trade Union Congress (NTUC) Childcare Co-operative Ltd.

Applications for the Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Educational Studies and Leadership degree programme will begin in January.

The first academic year is set to begin late June.

Currently, the degree programme is designed for ECH diploma graduates but Ms Jeanne Liew, the Deputy Director of the Organisational Development Office (OD) of NP, said that the school is "looking for a possibility to offer a bridging programme in the future for non-ECH students".

She added, "This tie-up will allow our graduates to experience a high quality degree programme at an affordable fee."



DEAL IS SEALED: Professor Joan Bergstrom of Wheelock College, NP Principal Chia Mia Chiang and Ms Adeline Sum, CEO of NTUC Childcare Co-operative Ltd signing the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). (Picture Courtesy of Jeanne Liew)

According to Mr Chia and Ms Liew, the fee for both Singaporean citizens and Permanent Residents (PR) to enrol in the course will be \$6,800 a year while those going to Wheelock College in Boston will have to pay an estimate of US\$38,400 (S\$59,766) a year.

Mr Chia explained to **Tribune**, "We decided to work with Wheelock College because they have a clear focus... and there is an assured partnership."

According to a media release issued by NP, Wheelock College is a private institution with the aim of helping the "lives of children and families" and provides education in "child and family studies, and social work".

RTRC Asia has been working with

Wheelock College since 1991 and has been training "early childhood professionals both locally and in the region".

The same media release also stated that "this is the first degree tie-up to be announced under the initiative recommended by the Ministry of Education (MOE) where polytechnics can link up with foreign specialised institutions (FSI) to offer degree courses in niche areas."

This new degree course features a four-year curriculum, but those who have an NP diploma in ECH will receive a two-year exemption and enrol directly into the third year of the programme.

Ms Liew said, "The aim of this tie-up is to meet the growing aspirations of poly grads to obtain a degree qualification after

their poly education..."

Daphne Cher, 19, a final-year ECH student, said that she would consider enrolling for the degree course though the cost would be a concern. She said, "I would most likely try out [for the course] only if the degree is well-recognised."

According to the media release, the "degree will enjoy international accreditation by the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC)".

Wheelock College has taken measures to ensure that the course will be of top-notch quality.

Professor Bergstrom said in a media release, "We (Wheelock College) will appoint a senior staff member of our faculty in Boston as the resident centre director to manage the programme. We will also be sending some of our best and most senior faculty members to teach in Singapore."

Ms Liew said, "We also had to ensure that the programme is carefully tailored so that it is of a very high standard, dovetails well with our ECH diploma curriculum and [also] meet the needs of the ECH industry in Singapore."

According to Ms Liew, the annual intake of ECH students ranges from 180 to 190. However, the current proposed number of students entering the new degree course is only 60.

Mr Chia said that the students will be chosen according to their academic performance, aspirations and aptitudes as well as their overall performance while taking the ECH diploma.

Ms Liew added that Wheelock College will make the decision regarding the final selection of the candidates. ■

Painting NP Red With RED Camp

BY CHONG YI HAN
yihan.tribune@gmail.com

Do not be alarmed when 1500 secondary students flood Ngee Ann Polytechnic's (NP) grounds from November 30 till December 2 to participate in this year's RED camp.

Already in its third instalment, RED camp, the acronym for Roadmap to Explore and Discover Ngee Ann, will be organised on a much larger scale compared to previous years.

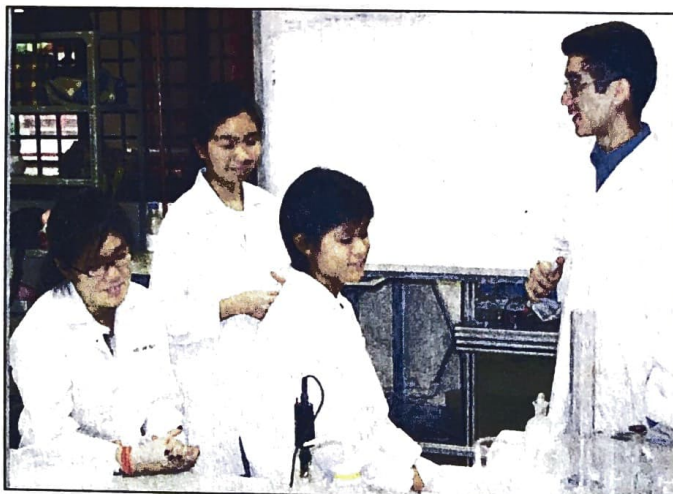
The first RED camp was held in February 2005 while the second was in November 2005.

RED camp allows 'O' level leavers from various secondary schools to get a taste of polytechnic life. They will get to learn and experience the lessons from the different courses available in NP.

Participants will be getting the feel of the Media and Humanities, Business & Accountancy, Life Sciences & Chemical Technology, Health Sciences, InfoComm Technology & Digital Media, and Engineering fields of study over the course of three days.

According to Mr Adrian Phuah, a Corporate Communications Officer from NP's Corporate Communications (NP CorpComm) Office, the aim of RED camp is to let participants learn more about the courses in NP.

Through RED camp, participants will also get an opportunity to get acquainted with the students and staff of NP, and to



LEARNING ABOUT SCIENCE: Secondary school students trying their hand at Life Sciences & Chemical Technology during last year's Red Camp. (Picture: Courtesy of Mr Adrian Phuah.)

also make new friends with their peers from the other secondary schools.

Mr Phuah, who was part of a team that conceptualised the idea of RED camp, said that after the first two camps, they wanted to find a way to "accept as many students as possible".

He told *Tribune* that in previous years, RED camp would receive around 200 participants, but this year's camp is expected to attract more than 1,000 participants.

To entertain the increase in participants, the RED Camp organising committee

brought in 50 to 60 percent more helpers this time around.

"[W]e can manage ... [with the] support of more staff and students," Mr Adrian Phuah said.

In previous years, there was an average of 300 students and 70 staff helping out. This year, however, there will be some 800 students and more than 100 staff helpers.

Another difference of this year's RED camp will be the greater number of Co-Curricular Activities (CCA) on display.

As the three-day camp is not an overnight

event, the programme is organised so each day ends with a bang. This means allowing the participants to experience the CCAs that will be showcased.

Some CCAs that Mr Phuah mentioned participants will get to experience are fencing and the new CCA unicycling. There will also be a "Jam N' Hop" party on the second night of the camp that will see the involvement of NP's campus radio station, Radio Heatwave.

Every camp is a challenge, but the RED Campers will always go away... with much knowledge about polytechnic life is all about.

Mr Adrian Phuah
Corporate Communications Officer

Though there are changes to this year's RED Camp, Mr Phuah is confident that the success of this year's camp will be no different from previous camps.

He said, "Every camp is a challenge, but the RED Campers will always go away in high spirits and with much knowledge about what polytechnic life is all about."

Towards A Safer School Environment

BY VALERIE TEO
valerie.tribune@gmail.com

Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP) Safety Week 2006 took place from October 30 to November 3 as each academic school organised various activities to remind staff and students of the importance of being safety-conscious.

Co-heading the NP Safety Week committee, Student Relations Officer Mr Winston Lim Puay Khoo said that its main purpose was to raise awareness of safety in school so students and staff will be prepared in the case of emergencies.

Mr Lim said another reason the NP Safety Week committee began the annual week-long safety education programme was because they found students only made the effort to learn more about such safety practices if they were forced to.

He said, "We don't want students to learn the hard way."

THE FIRE DRILLS

The week began loudly when a surprise fire drill caught 800 students and lecturers off-guard at blocks 53 and 52 on October 31 at around 3 pm.

The evacuation took eight minutes. Mr Lim expressed satisfaction with the result. "The fire drill evacuation was quite successful," he told *Tribune*.

As students and staff emerged from the emergency stairwells after the activation of the fire alarm, firemen from the Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF Clementi) raced up the stairs in full uniform and fire-fighting equipment as they would in the case of an actual fire.

The students and lecturers were led to

the mini carpark space beside block 52 by 20 staff Floor Wardens wearing red caps.

Following the fire drill was a 30-minute demonstration by four firemen from SCDF Clementi. Students and staff were taught methods of handling the fire fighting equipment.

Isaac Chan, 19, a final-year Film Sound & Video (FSV) student said, "The demonstrations were quite informative."

Mr Lim added, "They were so excited... it was all 'Woahs and wahs!'."

HAND-WASHING TECHNIQUES

In line with NP Safety Week 2006, Life Science & Chemical Technology (LSCT) and Health Science (HS) staff members organised the Effective Hand-washing Technique Competition.

This competition's purpose was to spread awareness of personal hygiene and communicable diseases among students.

In teams of four, students came up with creative strategies to spread hygiene awareness among their peers.

They also designed posters to educate fellow students on effective ways of washing their hands.

According to Mr Michael Schade, a visiting lecturer from HS, such competitions are vital while there is still the threat of outbreaks of communicable diseases like the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and Bird Flu.

As a feature of this competition, booths were also set up on November 16 and 17 between 11am and 2pm at the hand-washing areas in Canteens One to Four.

Every team tried to attract as many students and staff members to show them ways of washing their hands during the



SOUND THE ALARM: Firemen from the SCDF (Clementi) gave a demonstration of their fire-fighting equipment. (Picture by Valerie Teo.)

lunch hours.

Judges of the competition evaluated the participants as they carried on with their show-and-tell.

QUIZZES AND COMPETITIONS

The School of Engineering (SoE) organised the most activities in line with the NP Safety Week.

Besides hosting various online-quizzes and communicating the importance of heeding safety precautions in the engineering workshop through their Safety Poster Design competitions, SoE students also took part in the "Most Safety-Conscious Student" Contest.

Stuart Robert Wee, 19, a second-year Mechanical Engineering (ME) student, said thoughtfully, "With a school of many students, we should prepare ourselves for

any emergency."

THE STUDENT'S ROLE

Mr Lim, the co-head of the NP Safety Week Committee, hopes that through the NP Safety Week, students will assume a greater sense of responsibility towards keeping the school environment safe.

He also said the students' attire plays a part in ensuring their safety within the school premises. An example he gave was wearing slippers to school.

He explained that students could injure themselves in laboratories and workshops.

Mr Lim told *Tribune* that lecturers from SoE, HS and LSCT would be more stringent in enforcing safety rules this year. He said, "We (NP Safety Week committee) hope students will understand why we do this, as it is for their good."

BA Makes Its Mark At Major Conferences

BY JENNY YEAP
jenny.tribune@gmail.com

Students from the School of Business & Accountancy (BA) recently made their presence felt at two major international conventions and received glowing feedbacks from the organisers.

Over 50 BA students helped out at the IMF-World Bank Annual Meetings (IMF) from September 13 to September 20, and the Health Management Asia 2006 (HMA) conference on August 29 and 30. At both events, the students served as ushers, food and beverage hosts, and even bartenders.

The student volunteers were selected through interviews to assess their suitability for both IMF and HMA. Ms Elaine Cheng, the Academic Manager of BA, said the school hopes that the BA students will "develop social, service, and leadership skills" through such large-scale events.

Students had to go through intensive training for their respective positions at each of the conventions.

IMF volunteer, Chan Zhe Ying, 22, a second-year Accountancy (ACC) student commented, "There was a lot of tension and stress because we were required to perform under a tight schedule. However, all of us (BA student volunteers) gave our best during the training."

In spite of the trainings, things did not always go as smoothly as planned. Zhe Ying told **Tribune** of an incident that saw tension between the volunteers and the police force.

"As the security was very tight during the IMF, everyone's movement was watched carefully. We got into an argument with the police force regarding our team's



4 MILLION SMILES: BA Students dazzle the IMF with their smiles. (Picture: Courtesy of Chan Zhe Ying.)

movements. However, I apologised at the end and luckily everything worked out well," said Zhe Ying.

A HMA volunteer and final-year Tourism & Resort Management (TRM) student, Jasmine Chia, 19, said, "We had to keep track of the room temperature, talk to the delegates when they got bored, and get them anything they might need in the quickest way possible."

Jasmine added, "I had to use my initiative to talk to the delegates and take care of their needs. This event has significantly improved my social grace and

I am now able to present myself better in public. I will definitely do something like this again in the future."

The efforts of the BA students definitely did not go to waste. The Chairman of HMA, Mr Peter Lee, commented that he was highly impressed with the students' initiative, maturity and responsibility.

Not only did the students receive official thank you letters and praises from the organisers of IMF and HMA, they also received compliments from the international delegates themselves.

"After I helped a lost delegate find his

way out, he actually told me that our smile campaign was working!" said Zhe Ying, laughing, referring to the IMF Four Million Smiles Campaign.

Jasmine also recounted how the HMA professor told her that he "[would have felt] totally lost" without her assistance.

Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong even presented Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP) with an IMF Appreciation Award. "BA students made major contributions to the event. We are glad that we were recognised for our contributions and were well appreciated," said Ms Cheng. ■

NP Paves The Way For Post-Graduation

BY JULIANA LAU
juliana.tribune@gmail.com

Whether it is embarking on a new career or further studies, graduating Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP) students received a double dose of useful information from two recent NP-supported job fairs.

The JobsCentral Career Fair 2006 Roadshow and EDvance 2006 held for Ngee Ann Polytechnic's (NP) graduating students showed that NP is eager to help students prepare for post-polytechnic life.

Held at the NP Atrium from October 25 to 27 and sponsored by the Ministry of Home Affairs as well as Great Eastern Holdings Limited, the JobsCentral Career Fair 2006 was an exhibition targeted at serious jobseekers as stated on the official website (www.jobscentral.com.sg).

According to Miss Diana Wong, Project Executive of JobsCentral, "the turnout was overwhelming ... [with] a total of 55 organisations from over 20 industries participat[ing] in the fair and 20,000 jobseekers [showing] up". The career fair was held in collaboration with the five polytechnics in Singapore which all promoted the event to their students.

Student Services Office collaborated with Mass Communication (MCM) students studying the Conventions & Exhibitions (CONVEX) module to host

the roadshow.

Miss Wong added, "In particular, the School of Film and Media Studies (FMS) of NP has been very supportive ... apart from the roadshow which a group of students helped organise and execute, they also volunteered their time to help out at the JobsCentral Career fair."

To help students intending to go for further studies, the Student Services Office also organised EDvance which was, according to its official website (www.np.edu.sg/ss/edvance2006), "aimed at polytechnic students who are planning to further their studies".

Held on November 2 and 3, EDvance attracted some 2,000 students.

Ten local and overseas educational institutions and organisations sent representatives to dispense much-needed information such as the requirements for admissions and school fees of various schools and degree courses. The institutions included the local universities, IDP Australia, and the British Council.

"EDvance 2006 exceeded all our expectations. We had overcrowded classrooms and students have had to sit on the floors... not only was the event successful, it shows that a lot of graduating students are keen on further studies," said Priyadhershini Balraju, 19, final-year (MCM) student and leader of the CONVEX group that helped organise



PREPARING FOR WORK: JobsCentral Career Fair 2006 was held at the Suntec City Convention Centre on Oct 28 and 29. (Picture: Courtesy of JobsFactory)

both events.

In a phone interview with **Tribune**, Miss Annie Poon of the Student Services Office said that the events will "definitely benefit students in NP".

"It gives them information that is not necessarily in books. We have counselling booths at the events, so if the students have any questions about details not easily available, they can just ask the counsellors."

"Information like this is very important because it would help students make better choices..." she added.

"I think what is great about these two events is that it more or less covers the two options that we have after we graduate. Most of us are either going to study some more or work," she said. ■

Information like this is very important because it would help students make better choices that would impact their lives. We think that that is very crucial.

Miss Annie Poon
Student Services Office

One Small Step In China, One Giant Leap For NP

BY JULIANA LAU
juliana.tribune@gmail.com

A team of 24 students from the School of Film & Media Studies (FMS) spent two weeks in China filming a four-part mini series about Shaoxing.

The students were at the famous wine city in Zhejiang Province with lecturers Mr Jonathan Foo and Mr Peter Yeo from September 10 to 24.

The project was the result of a collaboration between Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP), Zhejiang University City College (ZUCC) and the Shaoxing Tourism Bureau.

Applly named "In Love with Shaoxing", the documentary focuses on different aspects of Shaoxing culture such as its shopping, food and transportation.

Four local students, Li Xiao, Zhang Bo, Liu Dong and Zhu Ye, from ZUCC acted as the team's guides, translators and also assisted in the production.

Final-year Mass Communication

(MCM) student and leader of the production team, Jonathan Chia, 19, said, "The documentary is also about all that Singaporean youths would find interesting, unique and attractive in Shaoxing."

The production team faced numerous challenges as well, the biggest being the wet weather in China. "The weather could not have been worse for our shoot because it was raining almost every day. There were also problems with the scheduling on China's side," Jonathan said.

Curious onlookers also presented a huge and frustrating problem.

Jonathan said the passers-by were "quite difficult to deal with because they would just walk into the camera's frame without consideration for the shot and marvel at the equipment."

As a result, the team had to take multiple takes at a time, resulting in a disruption in the production schedule.

Out of the team of 24 were 14 MCM student journalists. Five of them made up the Chinese publication (CP) team and the



LIGHTS CAMERA ACTION: The FMS filming crew spent two weeks in Shaoxing, China filming the four-part mini series 'In Love with Shaoxing'. (Picture: Courtesy of Lee Xian Jie.)

remaining nine, the English publication (EP) team.

During the trip, the student journalists wrote articles such as travelogues and features on the cities they travelled to.

Final-year MCM student and leader of the EP team, Lilynn Seah, 19, admitted that in the beginning, it was not easy for them to get past the language barrier.

"I must say that it was extremely challenging, especially for my English Publication team who are more English-savvy. However, we were fortunate enough to have the ZUCC students with us. They acted as our translators and took the initiative to ask the locals questions on our behalf," she said.

A presentation was held on November 9 for FMS director Henry Tan and lecturers and the directors of other schools in NP.

They unveiled the four episodes of the documentary, the articles written for various magazines and newspapers such as LIME, Juice, Teenage, Lianhe Zaobao, Friday Weekly, My Paper and NP's own magazine, *hypo*.

The group also unveiled the website

constructed for the trip which was made accessible from NP's website from November 13.

Film & Media Studies (FMS) lecturer and co-leader of the trip, Mr Jonathan Foo, said that the idea of the trip stemmed from China's rapid market expansion. "Because the Chinese market is growing, our media students should be exposed to it... and not be restricted to just the English-speaking market," he said.

Mr Foo said he wanted "the students' work to be recognised."

Plans are underway to pitch the documentary to popular local Chinese television channel Channel U, in the hope of getting nationwide airtime.

Moreover, he noted that the trip was a great opportunity for the students to "make friends" and forge connections.

"Even after the trip, the students are all planning on working together in the future." He added optimistically.

All 24 students who went on the trip found it highly enjoyable.

"[I]t was the best two weeks of my life," said Lilynn. ■



Install Free Adobe CS

BY JULIANA LAU
juliana.tribune@gmail.com

Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP) recently bought Adobe Creative Suite licenses, enabling students to access the software more conveniently.

NP will receive a 'master copy' of the software in a CD-ROM format. As NP will be holding onto the CD-ROMs, students will have to go to the Teaching Learning Centre (TLC) or their respective schools to get the programme installed into their laptops, free-of-charge.

The need for the software increased when the schools of Film Media Studies (FMS), InfoComm Technology (ICT) and Humanities (HMS) began increasing their usage of the Adobe Creative Suite software for their course work.

According to Mr Ch'ng, TLC began negotiations with Adobe "about a year ago" to obtain the software licence.

Due to Adobe software being expensive, NP has always encouraged the use of "cheaper alternative options" such as downloading the 30-day trial version of the software.

"We pay by the number of students, so we got a bulk discount," he said.

Free installation is expected to begin in "late November or early December." ■

ITE Students A Welcome Addition



LEND A HAND: New HS students from the ITE will be able to guide their peers with additional nursing knowledge (Picture: Courtesy of Mary Tan Mei Leng)

BY TAN WAN JUN
wanjun.tribune@gmail.com

For the first time, four Institute of Technical Education (ITE) Nitec Nursing students have been accepted into Ngee Ann Polytechnic's (NP) Health Sciences (HS) Nursing course.

According to Dr Phang Chiew Hun, Director of the School of Health Sciences

(HS), the four ITE Nitec students began school in the second academic semester of HS's Nursing course on October 16.

All the four students attained a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.5 or more for their ITE final year academic grades, earning them a place in the Nursing course.

The ITE Nitec students were all exempted from attending the first semester of school because of some similar modules

they had taken in ITE.

The new HS students who graduated from ITE Nitec in April this year had previously undergone a two-year nursing programme in ITE Nitec which comprised one year's training in school and internship in a hospital for the second year.

Leo Wan Ling, 20, one of the four ITE Nitec students, said most Nursing modules she took in ITE Nitec are very similar to the first-year modules she is currently taking.

Though there may be at least a three-to-four-year age gap between Wan Ling and her classmates, she felt that they were not any different from friends of her age and they were all able to get along well.

"The four ITE Nitec Nursing students who are much more mature and exposed to the nursing industry in HS may be able to spur other first-year HS students to work harder," Mr Lim said highlighting the advantages of admitting the ITE Nitec graduates in the Nursing course.

Wan Ling agreed and told *Tribune* that she feels that she is able to "guide them (other first-year students) a lot more due to the two years' experience gained in ITE Nitec and from internship."

Despite this, however, Wan Ling feels that there is much more for her to learn about from HS and she hopes to adapt to the new campus life soon. ■



University of Canberra

An Australian Government owned university
in the capital of Australia

CRICOS Provider Code: 00212K

**Rank 8th out of 38 Australian universities for Excellence
in Learning and Teaching** The Australian Government, DEST, 2005

Rank 5 Stars for Getting a Job in the Graduate Employment
Good Universities Guide 2006

The courses offered to international students are registered with the Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS). The University of Canberra is a member of the Unified National System, and of the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU).

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

CRICOS COURSE CODE: 008841E

Admission Requirements (Intakes in January and August)

- An undergraduate degree and 2 years relevant work experience or equivalent as approved by the university admission committee.
- Applicants without an undergraduate degree but with seven years work experience or equivalent as approved by the university admission committee will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

CRICOS COURSE CODE: 025564

Admission Requirements (Intakes in January, April, July and October)

- Diploma from Singapore Polytechnic, Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Nanyang Polytechnic, Temasek Polytechnic, Republic Polytechnic or equivalent.
- University Preparation Program - Diploma of Business Administration from Asiainstitut of Management, AM School of Business Studies.
- 2 GCE "A" level at least grade C.
- Diploma from other recognized professional institutions.

UNIVERSITY PREPARATION PROGRAM DIPLOMA OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

It is a 1 year intensive university preparation program in Singapore and an additional 6 months IELTS program for foreign students. The programs are registered with the Ministry of Education, Singapore and the Diploma of Business Administration is awarded by Asiainstitut of Management, AM School of Business Studies.

On successfully completing the program and attaining good grade, students will be able to gain direct entry and articulation into the University of Canberra's Bachelor of Business Administration program either in Australia and/or Singapore campuses.

Admission Requirements (Intakes in January, April, July and October)

- GCE "A" Level or equivalent.
- Students without GCE "A" level but with good results in the GCE "O" level (English Language and Mathematics) or equivalent will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

20 Bideford Road, #01-03, Wellington Building, Singapore 229921.

Tel: 68380151 (5 Lines) Fax: 68380154

Email: amedu@singnet.com.sg



Registration No. CT-0345



Registration No. QAIC90451

www.canberra.edu.au

Nike Picks FMS to Help in 100th Anniversary

BY ELIZABETH LOW
elizabeth.tribune@gmail.com

Students from the School of Film and Media Studies (FMS) scored a hit with Nike Singapore Pte Ltd, when the multinational brand engaged the help of FMS to organise the Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP) leg of its island-wide Heritage Tour.

The event was part of Nike's latest campaign to celebrate its 100th anniversary and heritage.

It was also a platform to showcase its latest range of products, inspired by its century-long heritage.

Believing that the students would know the polytechnic best, Nike approached TriMedia Publishing (TMP), a student editorial consultancy, Radio Heatwave and Campus TV (CTV) to help them organise their roadshow on campus.

The NP Corporate Communications Office also assisted the students in the running of the event. Students from TMP, Radio Heatwave and CTV jointly planned the overall setup of the entire event.

All three organisations ran the publicity for the event, both prior to and after the event, on their respective media.

TMP managed the lucky draw and contest booths and handled media enquiries while the Radio Heatwave team provided emcees for the event.

TMP also designed promotional flash advertisements on their website, the UrbanWire (www.theurbanwire.com) and wrote articles for the event. CTV provided television coverage on campus and Radio Heatwave worked on publicity over the radio airwaves.

The NP Corporate Communications (NP CorpComm) Office also assisted the students in the running of the event.

Nike's Marcomm Manager, Ms Beverley Wong, said FMS was chosen to help Nike to organise the event because they were "the right people, with the knowledge of the media, and their passion to run it".

She added, "They have a strong establishment in the media, not to mention their creativity and flair for it."

"When we were thinking of this campaign, Ngee Ann was the ... poly [of choice]," she said. Ms Wong explained that Nike has had experiences working with the FMS students on other projects.

Nike has previously worked with TMP's free magazine **hype** and the UrbanWire. Ms Wong said that Nike has been very satisfied with their work.

The FMS students benefited immensely from the experience as well.

"It was a really good experience, handling an event first-hand... [I like] how we even got to manage certain booths all by ourselves," said TMP's Publicity, Advertising and Promotions Specialist, Fiona Jacob, a final-year Mass Communication (MCM) student on her Industry-based Project (IBP).

Fiona felt that the experience gave her a useful insight into her desired future career in marketing.

The Nike Heritage Roadshow, which was held on October 20, transformed the normally serious and laidback atmosphere of the NP Atrium into one abuzz with noise, laughter and excitement.

Student deejays from the campus radio station, Radio Heatwave, emceed the event with enthusiasm and wit.

Students were encouraged to explore the Nike Hospitality Wagon which was parked



GROOVING IT OUT: The three winners of the Best Dressed 70's contest preen in front of the cameras. (Picture by: Agnes Koh)



ALL ABOARD: Students stepping into Nike's Heritage bus which showcased the brands history. (Picture by: Izal Ibrahim)

It was a really good experience, handling an event first-hand... [I like] how we even got to manage certain booths all by ourselves.

Fiona Jacob
TMP's Publicity, Advertising and
Promotions Specialist

at the entrance to the atrium.

The wagon was decorated in the 70's style, and filled with 70's memorabilia such as old pictures and banners. It also contained Nike's latest vintage-inspired product range.

The entire event had a nostalgic feel to it, with the display of Nike's history and memorabilia of Steve Prefontaine, the athlete that inspired the brand's vision since it was started.

Steve Prefontaine was one of the greatest long distance runners in American history. His life was cut short at 24, due to a tragic car accident.

However, in his short lifetime, Steve Prefontaine attained 14 Track and Field

records. His 'give-it-your-all' attitude is what has inspired Nike all these years.

The Atrium was humming with activity, and \$5,000 worth of Nike prizes were given away to people who attended the event.

There were more than 20 Nike prizes awarded to the winners of the Lucky Draw contest, opened to anyone who was wearing Nike apparel or presented any Nike product at the TMP-managed counter. Prizes were also awarded to the winners of the '70's Best-Dressed Competition'.

Members of the NP Track team were disguised in an afro wigs and retro track uniforms in a parody of Nike's historic icon Steve Prefontaine. Students who caught them were also awarded Nike goodies.

The NP Track team also went around campus, handing out paper bags for students to redeem free waffles at the school atrium.

Jerald Foo, a second-year Electrical Engineering (EE) student and one of the track team members dressed as Steve Prefontaine, shared that the students' response to the free waffles was extremely enthusiastic. All the free waffles were given out completely. "I didn't even get to eat one myself," Jerald remarked.

Ms Wong said she was happy with the turnout at the event. She also said that the overall message of the heritage campaign was in line with what Nike wanted. ■

Open House To Show That Something Extra

BY SYED ARAFAT
syed.tribune@gmail.com

Whizzing across business countries and cities in a speeding train and seeing and experiencing student-engineered creations are just some of the things that can be expected at Ngee Ann Polytechnic's (NP) Open House in 2007.

Ms Audrey Chong, NP's Manager of Corporate Communications, said she hopes the activities will be an incentive for visitors to tour all the schools during NP Open House from January 18 to 20.

"We hope that they'll go to different schools to see it for themselves. We also want them to get to enjoy ... the interesting activities installed," she said.

For the School of Business & Accountancy (BA), visitors will get to see the world's major cities in a bullet train.

Called the 'BA Express', the school will be transformed into locations around the world that students can get to see in a 'bullet train'.

Tutorial rooms at block 73 will be converted and decorated to look like places such as China, Italy, and South Korea.

Ms Sylvia Ler, a BA lecturer and one of the committee members in charge of BA's Open House, explained that there was a need for creative and innovative ways to capture students' interest.

"We want students to understand and know more about the courses in a fun and vibrant way of learning. We chose those places because they represent something. Italy, for example, was where the father of accounting came from. Not only that, but also because they recently won the World Cup too!" she jested.

Another key change in next year's Open House will take place at the School of Engineering (SoE). In the past, the school was not included in NP's bus tour. However, this year, SoE will be hosting a techno fair which showcases gold and silver winning creations by students for their final-year projects.

Mdm Nancy Low, one of the SoE lecturers involved in the Open House, said, "There will be a display at block 46 where the techno fair is. Some of the projects are creative and interactive and students can play with [the projects]."

The School of Health Sciences (HS) is also keen on showcasing itself. Ms Mary Tan, lecturer and HS representative for the Open House, said, "We'll be having student-run booths that will sell food, items, and display innovative creations."

She further explained that students can test their medical abilities in the labs. She said, "We have labs where students can take quizzes, and carry out practical procedures like taking blood pressure."

Secondary school leavers as well as NP students will also get to sweat it out on the last day of the Open House, Mr Edmund Oh, Student Development Manager of the Student Development & Alumni Relations (SDAR) office, said that the cross-campus challenge will be back next year.

"At the last Open House we had a good response - about 300 participants - and we hope that we'll be able to get about 100 more next year," he explained.

Ms Audrey Chong explained, "We want students to know that we're a fun and vibrant campus, and that we're always that something extra." ■

Red Cross CCA Plans To Heighten Donor Awareness

BY GIDEON YING
gideon.tribune@gmail.com

The Red Cross Humanitarian Network (RCHN) aims to transform the way Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP) students respond to blood donation drives.

According to RCHN NP Chapter President, Yu Changquan, there is a pressing "need for much more donors to come in."

The second-year Bio-medical Engineering (BME) student (SoE) also added that blood donor recruitment is RCHN's main focus.

The RCHN was started a year ago by Changquan. It joins the long list of Co-curricular Activities (CCA) offered in NP. "RCHN saw the need for more blood donors in NP, and started with the key focus of raising first-aid and blood donor awareness in NP," he said.

With this the goal of serving the NP campus in mind, the RCHN NP Chapter set off with big plans in the pipeline.

"Our major highlight is the Blood Donation Drive at the (NP) Convention Centre," Changquan said.

He added that it was the first time that a CCA had taken over the baton from Student Services as the event organiser.

There are, however, some major hurdles to overcome.

RCHN hopes to dispel the many misconceptions concerning the procedure of blood donation.

Changquan said "NP students just do

not know enough about blood donation... Many people think that donating blood is painful, but this is really not true. There is almost no pain involved."

Changquan believes that more donors will come forth if NP students are given a chance to learn about blood donation.

Out of 20 students interviewed at the

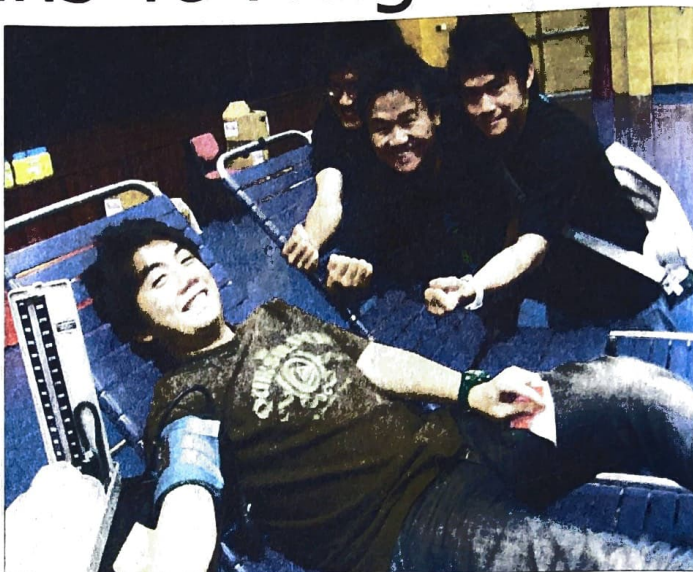
Many people think that donating blood is painful, but this is really not true. There is almost no pain involved.

Yu Changquan
RCHN NP Chapter President

NP Atrium by Tribune, 16 knew about the Blood Donation Drive. Of the 16, a considerable nine expressed interest in the cause, but ultimately, only 2 two actually donated blood.

"I guess NP students just do not care enough to make the effort, even if they know donating blood is not painful," said Eunice Ho, 18, a second-year Accountancy (ACC) student.

When asked about the current state of blood donor awareness in NP, Changquan



GIVING LIFE: A student getting ready to donate blood during this year's Blood Donations Drive at the Convention Centre. (Picture Courtesy of Yu Changquan)

said it was "not good," pointing to the general passivity among NP students.

There are also future plans in store to educate NP students on blood donation awareness. A series of "talks and workshops", are already in place in order to enrich RCHN NP Chapter's own members.

"We may reach out to NP students by teaching them about the many facts about blood donation, such as the various methods available," Changquan said.

For now, the call for more donors is especially crucial.

"There [tends to be] a big drop in donor levels during the festive period," said Ong

Chun Hui, 17, RCHN NP Chapter Blood Donation and Donor Recruitment Officer.

Muslims refrain from blood donation during their fasting month, and the upcoming Christmas and New Year will mean that many will be "too busy" to think about donating blood.

The previous Blood Donation Drive attracted over 500 registrants. Even though the figures are "quite good", Chun Hui further stressed that the need for more donors is still extremely critical.

The RCHN NP hopes to see blood donor levels in NP improve significantly in the near future. ■

Lending A Voice To Foreign Domestic Workers

BY CHONG YI HAN
yihan.tribune@gmail.com

Twenty students will lend a voice to the Foreign Domestic Workers (FDWs) based in Singapore by speaking up about the current plight of FDWs at a conference that will be held on December 6.

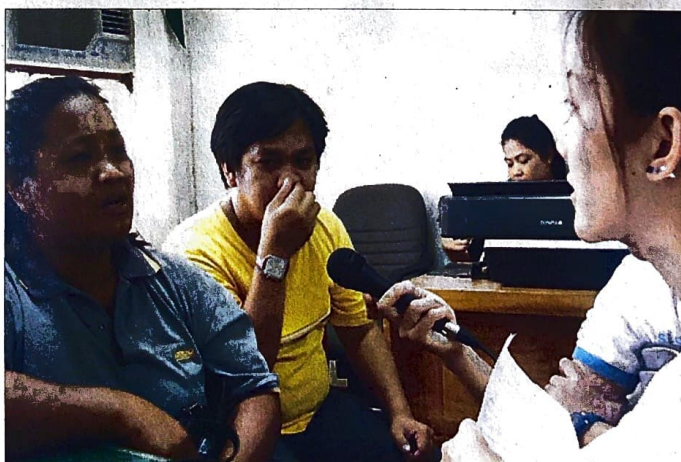
Called "Life for Rent", the conference title was created after students saw how FDWs had to "giv[e] up on their own families so as to take care of others" [by coming] to Singapore to work," said the chairperson of the conference, Terence Tan, 22, a second-year Mass Communication (MCM) student.

This project was spearheaded by the School of Interdisciplinary Studies (IS), under the module, IS Practical Research. The team of 20 students who went on the research trip to the Philippines consisted of 19 first-year students and one second-year student, all from the School of Film & Media Studies (FMS).

According to Mr Chong Ching Liang, the IS lecturer-in-charge of Practical Research, this module is a modification of the original Practical Research module. With the changes to the module, students get a chance to do experiential learning and can also interview real people in real life situations.

The focus of this year's study project was FDWs, namely maids coming from the Philippines.

Beginning in August, the students had to firstly interview maids they found



UNDERSTANDING FDWs: 20 students visited the Ilocos region in the Philippines to do research on the plight of FDWs. (Picture Courtesy of Amelia Hong)

at Lucky Plaza, so as to understand what maids are going through in Singapore. Not long after, they packed up their bags on September 11 to leave for the Ilocos Region, Northern Luzon, Philippines for a 10-day research and study trip.

They did a study of the ethnographics of the FDW community. According to Mr Chong, ethnographics is the "study of the social movement for a community".

Through interviews with families in the Ilocos Region, they found out that many FDWs have "sacrificed a lot to come to Singapore to work". They have left their own children behind, and even when they

do return, they find themselves in worse debt and having a hard time integrating back into their society.

Terence said, "[From the trip], we have learnt how fortunate we are...and we lead a better life. It has made us more aware [of the situation]."

Their research findings will be showcased during the conference, which will have a projected attendance of approximately 450 staff and students.

Terence hopes that, through their presentation, youths will be educated on how, as potential "future employers", they can play a part in helping FDWs lead a

better life.

The Guest-of-Honour (GOH) for the event will be Mr Yeo Guat Kwang of National Trade Union Congress (NTUC) Migrant Workers Forum. Also gracing the event, is Ms Braema Mathi of Transient Workers Count 2 (TWC2).

According to Terence, the trip and the conference have been enthusiastically supported by TWC2.

The team has met with their fair share of hardships.

Terence said, "All of us are relatively young and this is a big responsibility (organising the conference). But we are getting used to [organising the event], maneuvering our way through...after all, challenges make us grow."

Another problem they faced was raising funds for the conference. According to Mr Chong, there are not many supporters of this project.

He reckons that either "our society is not mature enough" or companies are unwilling to dig into their budgets to sponsor the trip as it is the end of the financial year.

Still, the students have soldiered on and have organised bake sales and flea market sales to hopefully raise the funds they would need to organise the conference.

According to Terence and Mr Chong, though they might not be able to raise the desired amount of \$3,000, they have already made back-up plans to work on their bare financial minimum.

The conference will be held on December 6, at the NP Convention Centre, from 2 pm to 5 pm. ■

中文版 Tribune

新登场!

fresh!

校园新鲜事
中秋晚会报道

scoop!

校园透视镜
特写少男系女孩

xtra fun!

吃.喝.玩.乐
mm.. 吃什么呢?
韩国餐!

设计: 陈慧玲

主编说。。。

Suriyani

这是我第一次觉得,我的生命竟然也可以如此疯狂。但是这种热爱工作的每个必须经历的“新”体验,当然包括我。



Tribune中文版的
全新登场,希望
你能捧场。

在词典翻一翻,发现“新”字除了是“旧”与“老”的对比,更有性质上改变得更好的意思。我不强求你一篇一篇细细读完(当然,如果你能做到这样我会更高兴!>)不过,希望当你翻阅每一页时,能够时时刻刻体验到这种“新”的感觉。

人生本就需要不停拥有“新”的感觉,循环再循环。这样,日子才不会“麻麻地”下去,毫无情趣可言。

初次“见面”,请多多指教。也希望在接下来的日子里,你也能成为Tribune中文版提供一些建议,让我们不断更“新”,共同创“新”!谢谢!

中文版指导老师: 陈颖 黄子琛

副主编蕙君 说。。。

恭喜Tribune中文版成功改头换面!版面增加,内容增加。。。。让我这个副编辑看了也信心增加。虽然刚刚上任这个副编辑职位,但觉得Tribune就像是我的宝宝一样,要好好呵护才能健康成长。

有了这个“突破性”的改革,相信往后的素质也会越来越好。希望各位朋友对这次的Tribune中文版感到满意。我们还很需要大家的支持呢!

很庆幸能有这个机会加入Tribune这个大家庭,亲身体验办报的喜、怒、哀、乐、苦与甜。以前只是因为好奇和兴趣,所以才会帮忙一些采访工作。现在终于可以从事比较另类的工作如:排版位、讨论新闻话题、批改文章,让我有些措手不及但也很期待,很向往。能做自己喜欢做的事情何尝不是件好事。

但愿我们这些办报人的热忱和用心可以打动你们的心,让更多师生留意华文新闻!



副主编雪薇 说。。。

经过了长期的策划与编排,首期“新”的中文版终于诞生啦!这一次是我们人文学院中文系第一次全权负责,请大家多多指教!

以往Tribune的中文版只有一版,如今我们有机会改革、创新,制造出独具一格的新面貌,实在令人兴奋!改革后的中文版内容多姿多彩,吃喝玩乐样样有,并为你报道时下年轻人最关注的话题。另外,我们也有增添娱乐新闻、校园新鲜事等等,让你被繁重功课压力笼罩的校园生活添一分色彩!

更重要的是,我们希望这里能够成为年轻人互相交流的平台。欢迎来信对于任何校园事情发表你们的意见,或是给我们一些feedback,让我们做得更好。我们需要你的回应!

最后,当然要谢谢协助我们落实这项新计划的每一份力量(记者、摄影师、美术设计等)!当然也要谢谢你们拿起这份报纸阅读。希望你们和我们共渡这段愉快的阅读时间!



蔡伟建：来自义安的耀眼之星

胡艾敏 张承尧 报道

万众瞩目的《绝对Superstar 2006》11月隆重登场了。去年《绝对Superstar 2005》男子组季军是来自义安理工学院的何维健，今年的男子组24强里，也有一位是来自本校的蔡伟建。目前就读海洋科技(Diploma in Marine Offshore and Technology)三年级的他，在上学期的NP Idol中大放光芒后，踏上《绝对Superstar 2006》的舞台，继续将歌声带到全国。

第一场复赛，蔡伟建演唱了许志安的《我还能爱谁》，评判表示很喜欢他的音色，声音“嫩”、“温暖”，让人听了感觉很舒服。但是，他们也批评伟建的表演“没有画面，演绎功力不够。”究竟他的歌唱经验有多少？他如何在学业及歌唱事业中取得平衡？

赛后，本报第一时间与他做了独家专访。

Q: 参加《绝对Superstar 2006》想获得什么？

A: 我希望能通过这个机会，了解自己的歌唱实力。

Q: 除了NP Idol外，有没有其他歌唱比赛的经验？

A: 没有。我平时都是跟朋友唱歌时，这边学一些，那边了解一点。

Q: 那你要如何在学业及歌唱之间取得平衡？

A: 我现在还在学习同时应付学业和比赛。复赛成绩在11月30日揭晓，如果我进入下一圈的话，我会暂时休学，把握这个机会，继续朝下一关挺进。我已经跟院长和我的父母谈过了，他们都很支持我。

Q: 那歌唱事业将摆在学业之前？

A: 没有。学业怎样还是会放在第

一位。我之所以会有这个打算是因为这是一个很难得的机会，我希望能好好把握，全力以赴。

Q: 看到亲友团这么支持，有没有什么话想要跟他们说？

A: 很感动，也很感谢他们这样努力帮我打气加油，真的很感谢他们的支持。

后记：当我们访问伟建的时候，其中一位参赛者张乐声经过。因乐声自认之前的表现不好而难过，伟建看到他后立刻给他一个鼓励的拥抱。其他参赛者也纷纷上前为乐声打气，场面一片温馨。虽然他们彼此认识不久，但参赛者之间的友谊真是让人感动！

《绝对Superstar 2006》
每逢星期三晚上8点在U频道播出。

绝对Superstar 2006 有什么好看？

延续去年《绝对Superstar》的魅力，今年的比赛从一开始就弥漫着浓浓的火药味。从6000多人中选出来的24强各显神通，首场复赛日前结束。本报记者赛后特地走访后台一探究竟。

好看一：整体实力不弱

“从某些方面来讲，有些参赛者在素质上比起上一届的参赛者来说较为成熟。”评判之一的许环良说。

今年的参赛者当中有许多受过歌唱训练，所以整体实力及看头和上一届相比，有过之而无不及。数据显示，上届首场复赛成绩最高的是陈耀榕，获得37分。而今年取得最高分则是陈迪雅，得到37.5分。值得一提的是，目前就读于南洋理工大学迪雅是本地著名音乐学院Music Clinic的学生，曾与她的同学在年中共同发行了单曲《我们的天空》。

也是海蝶音乐公司音乐总监的许环良在受访时说：“也许是因为学过歌唱的关系，许多参赛者得失心也比较重，表现上往往受影响。比赛进行两轮之后，歌唱实力的高低才会较为明显。”

好看二：台上台下为歌狂

台上，竞歌斗艺，战况正酣；台下，热情的粉丝给比赛增色不少，绝对是另一大看点。

陈迪雅的粉丝穿上绿上衣，成为观众席中最令人瞩目的绿色军



蔡伟建演唱了许志安的《我还能爱谁》

团。其他参赛者的好友，粉丝也准备了哨子、海报等等来支持自己的偶像。来自义安理工学院的蔡伟建的亲友团，穿上橙色上衣，拿着各式各样的海报，在观众群中特别显眼。

伟建的阿姨说：“我们花了大约500块的制作费，又用两个周末制作其他海报。”她也说，选橙色的上衣是希望突出伟建阳光朝气的一面。



文/李蕙君，张承尧
图/杨景豪

虽然中秋节已经过了两个礼拜，但中文系的师生却在10月20日晚把迟来的祝福“补”了一个圆满。

这次的中秋晚会主题为“月是义安明”，由中文系学生俱乐部一手承办。当天的嘉宾除了人文学院的院长杨静云女士外，还特别邀请到义安理工学院副校长陈汉章先生，以及南安会馆和潮州八邑会馆的多位委员。新加坡中国留学生总会以及日前来义安工院漫游的一批中国浙江大学城市学

院的学生，也前来助兴。人文学院也在这难得的盛会上庆祝成立一周年。

“文艺”为今年主题

今年中秋晚会的节目打的是“文艺牌”，诗歌朗诵、古筝表演声情并茂，古韵盎然。14位中文系学生由国茂老师陈维鸣先生指导，在传统马来民谣的伴奏下，现场挥毫，完成了一幅长约四米的荷花图，溪水潺潺，绿意盎然，观众无不为之惊艳。

晚会除了融汇传统中国风的表演，也包含了精彩纷呈的流行元素。中文

迟来的中秋 恒久的祝福

系讲师郑君心在学生的吉他伴奏下高歌一曲《水调歌头》，情深意厚，将现场的气氛带到第一个高点。

NP Idol英文歌唱总冠军柯楚贤与中文系学生陈健业一起合唱的“THE GREATEST LOVE OF ALL”，重现NP Idol风华。柯楚贤表示很高兴参与这次演出，她说：“下次若有机会能与中文系合作的话，我很乐意。”

新加坡中国留学生总会也特地为中秋晚会带来一段舞蹈表演及相声。相声《吹牛》笑料和包袱不断，让中文系的学生领略了中华文化轻松诙谐的一面，逗乐了现场观众。浙江大学城市学院的学生，也带来了流行歌舞，一段深情小提琴演奏赢得不少掌声。

“戏”说中秋

晚会也安排了和观众互动的节目。中秋节不可少的猜灯谜活动也被搬上了舞台，嘉宾和学生们一道进行脑力激荡，共揭谜底，乐在“猜”中。另一个由学生们精心设计的游戏单元“戏”说中秋，邀请了学生与老师上台，玩了一场与中秋典故有关的比手划脚游戏。诙谐的动作及充满创意

的答案，让在场的观众忍俊不禁，沉醉在一片欢声笑语中。

晚会气氛在节目最后的抽奖环节沸腾到最高点，丰厚的奖品包括了华纳唱片公司所提供的20张专辑，前三奖还包括Capitaland及Golden Village的礼券，而当晚的大奖则是著名品牌Guess手表一支。

晚会在大家高唱《上弦月》中落下帷幕，为今年的中秋佳节画下了完美的休止符。人文学院院长杨静云女士说：“这次的庆祝会很特别，充满青春活力，看得出学生付出了很大的努力，让演出能圆满举行。”

前来观赏晚会的嘉宾们也都兴致勃勃，他们称赞学生们的活力与朝气，并对中文系学生的多才多艺留下了深刻印象。

完美的表演背后是辛苦的汗水，中文系学生俱乐部主席廖玮珍(中文系二年级)谈到筹备过程时说：“整个筹备过程将近一个月，要特别感谢老师及台前幕后工作人员的协助，把这次的中秋晚会搞得有声有色，大家都玩得很开心。”

博客风潮 登陆课堂

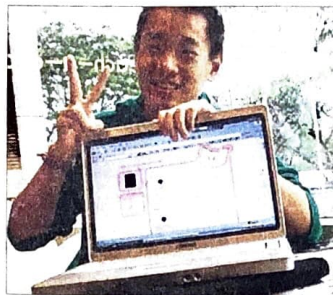
文：叶韵玲、张承尧

时代的博客风潮登陆课堂？别不信，义安理工学院中文系就在这个学期新推出“E-learning”单元之“B计划”——博客（Blog）计划，走在科技的尖端、赶上流行的前线。

时尚平台练写作

博客学习法的实施对象是目前修读华文写作的中文系一年级学生。每位学生都在livejournal上注册一个账号，然后透过简单的制作，开始建立属于自己的华文博客。学生们在博客上的作品不受限制，内容、题材不拘，但必须用纯正的华文来写作。透过这个规定，可以避免学生习惯以半英文半中文的方式来创作，也能激发学生的华文思考能力。

讲师陈为阳表示：“现在许多学生不愿看报纸，却选择看博客。希望可



学生可任意选择喜爱的主题撰写博客。

以透过这个新媒体的力量，启发学生阅读更多华文文章，提高写作兴趣。同时，他们所写的东西公众看得到，也可藉此训练学生学习对新媒体的运

用及发表负责的言论。”

由于这是一项自由作业，学生们有许多自主权来发挥他们的创意思维。对于这个计划，王玉认为这是一项很有流行感的计划。他说：“透过这种学习方式比较轻松，也可以让我们不时练练文笔。”

王玉就在自己的博客上放了一些记录心情的文字，还有“练习英文”的单元，将博客的用途发挥得淋漓尽致。不过，他认为如果老师们也来参与设立自己的博客，与学生们分享他们的生活及心情，可能会更有趣。

随着这项计划深受欢迎，讲师陈为阳并不排除将来把它推广到一些非考试课程上。人文学院院长杨静云女士也认为，假如计划成熟，该院也会将学生们的博客推荐给广大民众，让优秀的学生作品有更高的曝光率。

“另类”教学法，带来的不仅是学生华文写作水平的提升，也给e世代校园的生活平添了几许流行新色彩。

IN 语类

网络新人类、有趣新词汇，看招！

“踩”

意思：拜访对方的网络日志、个人网页，并且留言。

典故：在网络日志中，如果不断地有人发留言的话，新的留言总是盖在旧的上面，就好像新的留言把以前的留言全都“踩”下去似的。

示范用法：可以说“互踩！”“谁需要踩啊！”“有踩必回”等等

“烘焙机”

意思：Homepage（主页）

典故：其实烘焙机也就是所谓的烘烤机。但是由于它与英文里的Homepage读音相近，变成了网络上用来称呼Homepage的新名词。

-http://www.cp.com.cn/nd/newsdetail.cfm?iCtno=901

-http://home.donews.com/donews/article/8/86406.html

少男系女生 耍酷不温柔？

飘逸的长发、摇曳的裙摆的姿态，你绝对不会在她们身上找到。

对于“少男系女孩”，这个由台湾“引进”的名词，我想大家都不会感到陌生。艺能界属于这一系的女生，不论是最近的中国超女李宇春、周笔畅，还是90年代初的潘美辰、林良乐，都凭着这独特的风格，大红大紫。而这股风潮已蔓延到了义安学府。

是什么原因使这些清秀可人的女孩选择男性的装扮？是心灵上的渴望？或者只是盲目的跟风？记者在义安校园里“逮”到了几位少男系女孩，让我们来一探究竟！

文：李秀亭 叶家盛 唐端慧

摄影：唐端慧

今年18岁的陈宝智是义安的商科学生。从中学时代就开始作中性的打扮的她，只要是出门，就必须在镜子前花上半个小时打理自己的三千烦恼丝，之后再戴上耳环等首饰，配搭好球鞋，才算大功告成。打开她的衣柜，全都是些较深色、宽松的衣裤和外套，就连裤子也是特大号的。单是腰带，宝智就有近50条，因为她觉得衣裤间，只要有一条耀眼夺目的腰带，就会让自己的衣着生色不少。由此可见，虽然少男系女生在服装选择上和一般女生有别，但是，在首饰与衣裤的搭配上，她们甚至比女生还要讲究。

在访问过程中，只要谈到性倾向等的敏感问题，宝智总觉得有点不自在。最后，她只说了一句：“不是每个穿这样的人都是歪的”便绝口不提了。所谓的“歪”就是指女同志。从她的回应可以证明不是每个少男系女孩都有性倾向的偏差，而依据宝智的例子，她只是个爱穿男性化的衣服的女生，毕竟男性化的装扮是比较自在舒服的。

类似的事情也曾发生在当红女子团体S.H.E中的Ella，和超女李宇春的身上。观众都误以为她们是女同志，让两位女星纷纷出面澄清。

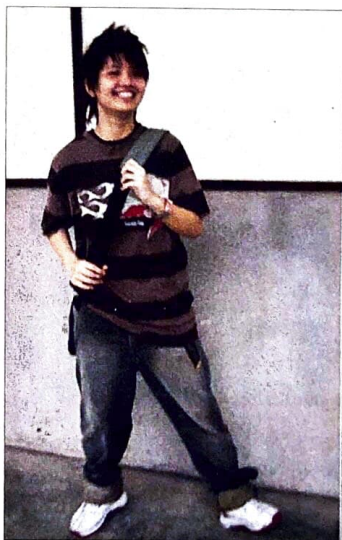
在义安修读幼儿教育（Diploma in Early Childhood education）的江香琴（17岁）是男

性服装的拥护者。因为周遭的中学朋友各个穿着偏向男性化，所以在潜移默化之下，香琴也开始喜欢上中性打扮。“我觉得自己的个性像个男生，动作也很粗鲁，所以中性的打扮比较适合我。”不仅性格和举止像个男生，香琴也表示自己热爱男生喜欢的运动，认为运动符合她娇弱造作的个性。

香琴觉得自己在小学和中学时期，已经“穿够”了裙子，裤子对她来说是种“解脱”。现在要她穿上裙子总觉得不自在、扭捏和尴尬。因此，当女生们一身女性装扮时，香琴则选择购买男性服装。她说自己虽有两套裙子，却一直被放置在衣柜里。

当记者问她以后是否会考虑改换成女装打扮时，香琴却不加思索地说：“或许会。”香琴表示，她或许会在18岁生日后改头换面，穿上久违的裙子。她笑着解释说，“女人十八一朵花”，因此想当个真正的妙龄女子。但香琴坦承要打扮得像个女生还需要一定的勇气，也必须作些心理准备。因为她毕竟已经习惯了男性的打扮，而以另一种造型与朋友见面，感觉会很不同。

不属于少男系的女生的李盈盈（也是宝智的同学）受访时表示，她能够接受这群新人类。虽然无法理解这些少男系女生的思想和作风，但是她说：“不能要求每个人都和我们一



江香琴是男性服装的拥护者

样吧？每个人都有自己的想法，[与其]反抗，不如接受。”这想法应该代表着绝大部分年轻人的观念。

不论其他人接受与否，少男系女孩已经渐渐地成为了校园里另一种独特的“性别”。虽然只有少数人能真正明白她们的内心世界，但就像受访者李盈盈所说的：“外表是有一点无法接受，[可是]宝智的确不像我们女孩子一样斤斤计较，小气无理，反而是个很讲义气的朋友。”

小典故

据悉，中性打扮的风潮是在20年代由知名品牌香奈儿

（Chanel）发起的。当时的设计师大胆地采用男装的布料为原本的女装增添阳刚味，没想到推出市场后引起了广大的回响。而到了现在，只要到市区那些年轻人爱去的购物商场，就不难发现其中有不少店面是专门为这群有独特穿衣嗜好的女生开设的，从衣裤到鞋子，甚至是内在用品，样样齐全。

欢迎投稿！

奇闻趣事？
热辣新闻？
有意见想提？

无论你是在学校的任何一个角落，

欢迎你来投稿，并电邮至 tribunech@gmail.com

韩风来袭。。。

同学们注意了！不需要望着《大长今》猛吞口水，你也能尝到美味可口又道地的韩国食物。这一期将带大家来到本地的《土ogi韩国餐馆》“一尝究竟”！



土制的锅碗 - \$10

尖叫指数: 4/5
拌饭是韩国料理的特色之一，香喷喷的韩国米饭是与色彩缤纷的配菜融为一体，比如切法细致的黄瓜丝、香菇丝、清酒、香油、芥菜叶、洋生菜、红萝卜、牛肉碎，再加上韩国辣椒酱及少量菠菜搅拌均匀就能享用了。锅碗虽然外表不起眼，但当你放入嘴里时，才会真正知道什么叫做极品中的极品。



人参鸡汤 - \$20

尖叫指数: 5/5
想要滋补养颜吗？嫩滑鲜美的童子鸡，高级人参，红枣和大蒜，这是以长时间炖煮而成的。说它是用餐不可少的汤，但其锅底却放了糯米，据老板娘说这是韩国的传统烹调法。这道佳肴汤浓鲜美，味中有味，非常适合我们的口味，因为人参可以滋补强身还能清肝明目，这绝对可以刺激你的食欲！



饺子五人份 \$3.50

尖叫指数: 3/5
皮薄香脆的饺子，不同之处就在于韩国饺子的馅料是以新鲜的牛肉丝、香菇、炒好的南瓜和绿豆芽包成的，而且在朝鲜时代的宫里人们总爱把饺子包成海参的模样让食客们频感新鲜！



辣牛肉 - \$18.90

尖叫指数: 4/5
这是一道配菜，香嫩的牛肉上散放着切得很细的姜丝，紫菜丝，辣椒和葱头，而且佐料调得非常好看，口味浓郁芬芳。一口咬下去，酥脆再加上牛肉润滑的口感让人只想停留在咀嚼的时刻，舍不得把它吞下，绝对是一个开胃小菜。赞！

食后感

老板娘真的热情得让人无法招架！我想吃韩国料理的人都知道，无论点什么菜只要添加就得额外付费，但这间餐厅却可以免费再要哦！

魏嘉圆

食指大动@

11 Mosque Street Chinatown Singapore 059491

摄影: 陈淑娟, 林洁敏, 王婉媛

娱乐

接下来的每一期，我们将会为你整理近几个月来一些有趣和你不能错过的娱乐讯息！

沈殿霞割除2.7公斤肿瘤，保住一命

香港知名艺人沈殿霞日前因为胆管发炎住院，其间传出一度病危的情况，在割掉2.7公斤的良性胰脏肿瘤后，沈殿霞开心出院，破除谣言。

沈殿霞住院50多天期间花费可不少，在玛丽医院就花了15万港币的医药费，还好最后找回健康。

艺人晚年难免疾病缠身。但媒体仍夸大病况，散布谣言，连住院费用也都拿来炒新闻。不胜唏嘘度，高居本月榜首！



全球华语歌曲排行榜，孙燕姿刘德华大放光芒



近期本地最“烧”的话题莫过于由933及亚洲其他电台所合办的“全球华语歌曲排行榜”。除了首次在本地举行外，熠熠星光也点亮狮城。

本届的大赢家非刘德华、孙燕姿及陈奕迅莫属，刘孙双双获得压轴的最受欢迎男女歌手奖。另外获得三个奖的有台湾的蔡依林、团体“五月天”主音阿信、组合“S.H.E”成员Selina；马来西亚的光良、中国大陆的张敬轩、团体“羽泉”、李宇春、周笔畅；香港的容祖儿。

小甜甜布里妮申请离婚

目前已育有2子的美国流行歌手布里妮斯皮尔 (Britney Spears) 在11月7日向洛杉矶法院申请与舞蹈员老公凯文费德林 (Kevin Federline) 离婚。跟上一轮的55小时“短暂”婚姻相比，布里妮这次的第二段婚姻维持较长，长达2年2个月。

据说，布里妮决定离婚的主要理由是因为与丈夫经常发生争吵，而两人之间无法化解的分歧。



许美静出新专辑 绯闻对象陈佳明当制作人



本地歌手许美静日前因忧郁症大闹饭店事件结束后，决定要复出歌坛，新专辑的制作人她仍选择陈佳明。

对外界猜测许美静的忧郁症是因为与陈佳明发生三角恋而起，许美静要大家不要相信。

目前她的新专辑还在选歌阶段，作品来自本地海外的音乐人。另外，她自己创作了五首歌。

而今重新出发，还与绯闻对象再次合作，的确叫人期待。

BA Alumnus Launches Book On Cancer for Charity

BY JENNY YEAP
jenny.tribune@gmail.com

Losing your loved ones to cancer is difficult enough, but writing a book based on it is probably an even harder thing to do. However, Ms Stella Thng, 29, a former student from the School of Business & Accountancy (BA), managed to overcome numerous obstacles to publish the book, "Cancer Warriors: Tales of Courage and Hope" within six months.

Ms Thng, who is also the editor of entertainment magazine LIME, talked about her experiences working on the book at the Cancer Warriors Project showcase. Held at the Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP) Library on November 2, the showcase also featured performances by local artistes Ronin and newcomer Elsa who performed for students and staff at the event.

The Cancer Warriors Project set comprises a book, entitled "Cancer Warriors: Tales of Courage and Hope", and a CD, entitled "Cancer Warriors: When Voice Becomes Song".

"I lost my sister, Sally, to colorectal cancer last year. She remained positive and cheerful throughout the entire ordeal and never thought about giving up. She is the bravest person I know," Ms Thng said about her inspiration for the project.

Ms Thng who graduated from NP in 1997, added, "I wrote Cancer Warriors because I could not find a similar book when I needed one at that time. The book's name was inspired by Sally's fighting spirit, and it means that the journey is more significant than the end. I did not want to name it Cancer Survivors."

Besides helping Ms Thng and her family move on, the book also aims to inspire cancer patients and their families. Instead



SPEAKING OUT: BA Alumnus and Lime Editor Stella Thng shares her thoughts on the 'Cancer Warriors' Project. (Picture by Nene Estrella.)

of garnering sympathy, Ms Thng hopes that the book will raise awareness of cancer among Singaporeans and encourage them to feel for the patients.

The other main objective of the project is to raise funds for charity.

The proceeds from the Cancer Warriors book and CD, priced at \$12.90 and \$14.90 respectively, will go to the Joan Chan Trust Fund, Methodist Hospice Fellowship, Breast Cancer Foundation, and also the Terry Fox Run.

Using only her own funds and sponsorships from companies such as KHL Printing, Ms Thng sent out numerous e-mails in early 2005 asking for interviews with cancer patients.

The help that Ms Thng received when word got around regarding the project was beyond overwhelming.

Even Levan Wee, 24, the lead vocalist for home-grown rock band Ronin, subsequently joined the project.



PLAYING A PART: Newcomer Elsa and Ronin's lead vocalist Levan perform an acoustic set. (Picture by Nene Estrella.)

Levan proposed the idea of writing a song for the project, and that set the ball rolling for the Cancer Warriors CD. The CD was produced by legendary sound engineer Leonard Soosay. Stars like Sun Ho, Fiona Xie, Electrico, and Ronin all lent a helping hand.

Besides writing songs for the CD, Levan also designed the entire album. One More Moment, a song that was written by Levan and sung by Sun Ho, stood out for Ms Thng. Referring to the poignant lyrics, Ms Thng said, "I think the words 'don't take too long to say I love you to the ones you love, cause time has a habit of slipping away' really addressed what we all felt while doing the project. The lyrics help you to put your perspectives in place."

Levan, along with his bandmate Sean

Cheng and newcomer Elsa, performed an acoustic set of four songs.

James, 18, a second-year Information Technology (Mobile Computing) (IT(MBC)) student, said that he felt the Cancer Warriors project was "very inspirational and meaningful".

He was also moved by the project, and said, "I will pay more attention to cancer patients in the future and try to help them."

Ms Thng said, "People tend to take things for granted until disaster strikes. You will never know what will hit you, so treasure your loved ones and do whatever you want to do."

The book and CD are available at CapitalLand shopping centres such as Plaza Singapura and Tampines Mall. ■



ROCK IT OUT: 19 bands competed in the Jam 'N' Hop auditions held on November 4. (Picture: Courtesy of Benita Lim)

Battle Of The Bands

BY FELICIA TAN
felicia.hype@gmail.com

Nineteen bands signed up for the Jam 'N' Hop auditions held on Saturday, November 4.

According to Karthigayan s/o Veerayan, Programme Director of Radio Heatwave, Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP) is the first polytechnic to host this event.

Their styles were not unlike that of popular bands such as Linkin Park and Green Day.

Bands performed metal, rock, indie, alternative, pop and old school music. Energy levels were high, as performers pranced around the stage.

One of the bands, You and Whose Army, saw the event as an opportunity for them to perform together for the first time

as a band.

They played two self-composed pieces of indie music entitled "Complaints for a Saint" and "Struck".

Despite the stress of the competition, several of the members of competing bands did not leave right after their turn, but instead chose to stay on and watch the other competing bands.

Organiser and judge Daryl Etimaco, thoroughly enjoyed the performances, and was full of praises and encouragement for the bands.

He mentioned said that the standards were very high compared to similar events that he had previously judged.

Out of the 19 bands, only three to six would be selected to compete in the Jam 'N' Hop 2006 finals on December 1 in conjunction with this year's RED camp. ■

NRA Stages Major Show

BY VALERIE TEO
valerie.tribune@gmail.com

It was a giant leap of faith that made the first-ever dance production by New Revolving Age (NRA) a reality.

NRA's Chairperson Rebecca Tay, 19, a final-year Multimedia & Animation (MMA) student, said of Danzation, "It was a breakthrough."

"We (NRA) have never staged a production before and this is really big scale," she added.

Staged at the NP convention centre on November 11 and 12, the production involved 150 dancers.

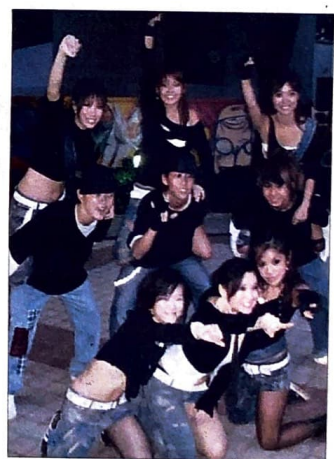
Danzation also invited guests from various local dance groups such as O School, National University of Singapore's Dance Blast, and Nanyang Polytechnic's Foreign Bodies and Jitterbugs to view the dance performance.

"Danzation is not a competition. Everyone gets a chance to perform," Miss Ann Tan, creator of Danzation and the coach of NRA, told *Tribune*.

A wide variety of dance styles were showcased in Danzation. Besides hip-hop - NRA's forte - the production also featured Broadway and jazz styles.

Since June, NRA members have been training vigorously almost every day for the Danzation production.

Taking taxis home at midnight is nothing new to NRA members.



WORK THE FLOOR: New Revolving Age's hard work pays off when their Danzation production drew 2,297 spectators (Picture: Courtesy of Desiree Lee)

With an average of seven hours of training on weekdays, the dancers sometimes practise till midnight.

Rebecca said, "Each of us had up to 15 pieces of choreography to memorise."

Rino Tan, 19, a second-year student from Mechanical Engineering (ME), added, "I was really excited about it because we had a stage of our own!"

Despite financial aid from the school and external sponsors, NRA dancers still had to fork out money on their own for the cost of the production.

Desiree Ng, 19, an NRA member said, "Danzation wants to reach out to [the] families and friends of NP students."

2,297 people turned up for NRA's Danzation dance production, branding it a rousing success. ■

NP's Man Of Iron

BY SYED ARAFAT
syed.tribune@gmail.com

A Marine & Offshore Technology (MOT) student from Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP) will become the first polytechnic representative for an international Ironman challenge.

Final-year student Lim Kok Chin, 23, will participate in the Ironman Malaysia triathlon in Langkawi on February 24. Ironman Malaysia is part of a global series of challenges that will see contestants swimming four km, cycling 180 km, and running 42 km to the finish line.

The captain of NP's TriElite club also took part in Ironman New Zealand two years ago.

"I went to New Zealand during my National Service as part of the Singapore Armed Forces team and the people there were amazing. They were

there to cheer for you along the way and I want to experience that feeling again," said Kok Chin, a former sprinter.

Mr Edmund Oh, Student Development Manager from the Student Development & Alumni Relations (SDAR) office who has trained and went on tournaments with Kok Chin, only had praise for him.

"He's definitely done us proud and he was the only one out of the three participants that we sent to Desaru for a triathlon who qualified for the Ironman competition," he said.

For Kok Chin, the trip to Langkawi is just another step closer to his dream.

"I'm really looking forward to a trip to the Ironman World Championship in Kona, Hawaii, this October. That's where all the best athletes want to be and I'll have to be [among] top two of my age group to make it there!" Kok Chin said. ■



ALL PUMPED UP: Kok Chin's experience in triathlons will help the athlete in Langkawi next year. (Picture Courtesy of Lim Kok)

Hidden Sports Talents Shine At Polympics 2006

BY JENNY YEAP
jenny.tribune@gmail.com

The sports clubs of Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP) scouted for undiscovered sports talents during the fourth annual Polympics games held from October 23 to November 4.

The annual Polympics is a two-week sports fiesta where NP students compete in sports such as Volleyball, Track and Field, Floorball, Squash, Swimming, Canoe Polo, Dragon Boat, Netball and Badminton.

Supported and funded by the Student Development and Alumni Relations Office (SDAR), the Polympics' aim is to create a venue for NP students to enjoy Co-Curricular Activities (CCA) in a competitive and fun way without having to join the clubs.

According to Mr Siow Chow Sid, Manager of SDAR, the Polympics are held annually to promote fitness and healthy lifestyles among the students. The school hopes that the students will learn more about sports and make new friends at the same time.

However, the Polympics have now taken on a new twist. Many sports clubs are now taking the event as a venue to uncover new talents for their respective clubs.

Hubert Heng, 18, student-in-charge of the Floorball Club and a second-year Business Studies (BS) student, said, "It was quite an eye-opener for our club because NP students who have no prior floorball training actually managed to defeat our own Floorball team in the Polympics."

Hubert added, "The Polympics is a very good chance for us (the Floorball Club) to look for new talents because there are many talented sports people in NP who are not in any CCA[s]."

The Floorball Club was the only club in Polympics to receive sponsorships from an external company.

Floorball specialist shop Tiasa Pte Ltd, sponsored the club with vouchers ranging from \$30 to \$50.

The club also saw some 80 NP students participating in the competition - one of the highest numbers among the nine clubs.



KEEPING IN BALANCE: NP Cycling Club members find their balance on one wheel. (Picture Courtesy of Arman Alluwie)

Unicyclers Roll Out

BY VALERIE TEO
valerie.tribune@gmail.com

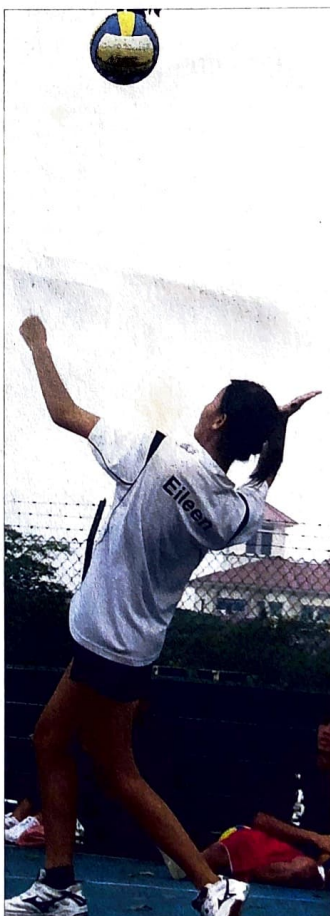
Ngee Ann Polytechnic's (NP) Cycling Club unveiled its latest unicycling division at the campus atrium on November 1.

When Alvin Liu, 18, a first-year Business & Accountancy (BA) student, saw unicycling as a potential hit with his peers, he proposed the idea of a new unicycling division to the Student Development & Alumni Relations (SDAR) at the beginning of this semester.

Alvin said, "I spotted a one-wheel cycle (a unicycle) at a bicycle shop, bought it, and picked up cycling on it myself. Unicycling is a unique sport."

Arman Alluwie, 22, a second-year Electronic & Computer Engineering (ECE) student and Secretary of the Cycling Club, thought introducing unicycling to NP was an opportunity to display the sport of cycling in another light. He said, "People think cycling is a boring leisure activity. Unicycling is something fresh.... it's a great idea."

Besides Alvin, two freelance instructors, Maxim and Kailun, have also been coaching the cycling club. ■



HIT IT HIGH: An NP student showcasing her volleyball skills during competition. (Picture Courtesy of Md Syafi)

It was really fun and challenging playing against a team with male students in it. It was a fresh perspective of playing Netball. Also, I never thought that I was good enough to be a champion. I will join again next year.

Wong Peilin
Member of the Netball winning team

publicity and better cooperation between the different clubs' committees."

He added, "We also used new mediums like blogspot.com to publicise Polympics."

The Polympics 2006 Committee also managed to secure sponsorships from the Public Utilities Board (PUB). The company supported the event by sponsoring 1,000 bottles of NEWater.

Clubs like Netball made it more flexible for NP students to join the Polympics. Instead of sticking to the conventional idea that Netball is an all-girls game, the club allowed male students to participate.

Wong Peilin, 17, a first-year Multimedia & Animation (MMA) student who is part of the winning team under the Netball games, said, "It was really fun and challenging playing against a team with male students in it."

"It was a fresh perspective of playing Netball. Also, I never thought that I was good enough to be a champion. I will join again next year," she added.

Syafi added that sports enthusiasts should look forward to Polympics 2007 because there will be an increase in the types sports offered.

"Now that the soccer court is up at the Student Plaza, we are going to add more street sports like basketball and soccer," said Syafi. ■

OBTAIN YOUR JAMES COOK UNIVERSITY DEGREE IN SINGAPORE

One of the leading universities in Australia, **James Cook University** offers a prestigious and enriching curriculum to its students worldwide. **JCU** was recently awarded a **5-star rating for the quality of Student's Educational Experience** (Good Universities Guide 2006).

Immerse yourself in a vibrant and creative learning environment under the wing of our experienced lecturers at **JCU Singapore**. With its trimester academic year, you graduate ahead of the others, fully-equipped for an exciting career ahead.

Stimulate your mind with a professional education at **JCU Singapore** now.

Undergraduate Programs

- . Bachelor of Business (Management) *
- . Bachelor of Business (International Business) *
- . Bachelor of Business (International Tourism) *
- . Bachelor of Business (Marketing) *
- . Bachelor of Information Technology
- . Bachelor of Psychology
- . Bachelor of Tourism Management

** Double Majors option available for the Bachelor of Business Programs*

Postgraduate programs also available in Business, Education, Guidance & Counselling, IT and Psychology

Why JCU Singapore?

- . 3 intakes a year for most degrees
- . Option to study part of the degree in JCU Australia
- . Degree awarded by Australian government-funded University
- . Resident senior academic staff from Australia ensuring academic quality
- . Study completed earlier than fellow students in Australian Campuses
- . Polytechnic graduates are eligible to receive Advanced Standings towards their Bachelor Programs



JCU

JAMES COOK UNIVERSITY

JCU Singapore
2, Bukit Merah Central, #03-01
SPRING Singapore Building,
Singapore 159835
Tel: 6377 6833
Fax: 6272 5833
Hotline: 8222 6833

For more information, please visit our website at www.jcu.edu.sg
or email enquiries@jcu.edu.sg

CaseTrust
Be Sure

Boys' Brigade Spreads The Christmas Spirit

BY SYED ARAFAT
syed.tribune@gmail.com

Ngee Ann Polytechnic's (NP) Boys Brigade (BB) Primers are spreading the joy of Christmas again this year with their annual Sharity Gift Box (SGB) for the aged and the needy.

The SGB, launched on November 20, allowed students and staff across NP to donate food products and daily necessities such as canned food, rice packs and toothbrushes to the needy.

The donation collection booth will be located at the atrium.

BB Primers' President, Alex Chen, 20, felt that the three-year-old event will be a good learning experience for everyone.

"We want to promote the spirit of caring and sharing among Singaporeans," the BB President said.

"On NP's side, we want to engage the youth, create the link and allow them to continue to serve the public after they leave secondary school," he added.

According to Alex, the SGB is managed by the BB on behalf of the National Council of Social Services (NCSS).

The final-year Electrical Engineering (EE) student also explained that the distribution will be carried out to the needy on December 3.

Some of the recipients of the donated products are those living in one-room flats - mostly the poor and the elderly.

"BB is reaching out to the various less fortunate people who are unable to support



SHARING THE LOVE: BB Primers hope to create a new SGF record by collect 7,000 food items this year. (Picture: Courtesy of Alex Chen)

themselves financially when they are too old to work. We're working to our fullest so as to achieve and give the best smile to the less

fortunate during the Christmas season," Alex said.

A final-year Aerospace Technology student, Chloe Chue, 19, echoed the BB President's thoughts.

Chloe added, "When we (the youth of today) have everything we forget about those that are in need. I think it's a good idea to help out and bring the Christmas spirit [to] everyone."

While students and staff of NP only had the short time period of between November 20 and 24 to donate, Alex is confident that the response will be good.

In a voice brimming with optimism, Alex commented, "Although this is a new event, we managed to collect 6,000 items last year! We hope to be able to achieve a new record this year and collect 7,000 items this time around."

*We're working to our fullest
so as to achieve and give the
best smile to the less fortunate
during the Christmas season.*

Alex Chen
BB Primers' President



STEPPING IT UP: Salsa Encanto president Chen Soong Fee performing a 'dip' with her dance partner. (Picture: Courtesy of Chen Soong Fee)

Salsa CCA In The Works

BY JENNY YEAP
jenny.tribune@gmail.com

Dance lovers on campus will have something extra to look forward to when they are seeking a dance group to join.

Salsa Encanto, a new group specialising in the social dance salsa, was recently set up by Chen Soong Fee, 18, a second-year Mass Communication (MCM) student. The special interest group will be made an official Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) after two semesters.

"Salsa has given me so much more than just learning how to dance. I am able to meet other like-minded people and I can share with them the passion I have for salsa," said Soong Fee, President of the club.

Initially, Soong Fee had doubts about setting up Salsa Encanto, because there were already two dance-related CCAs in Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP). However, she received the great support she needed from vice-president Charity Goh, 18, a second-year MCM student.

Both of them worked on the interest group's proposal and finally got the nod from Mr Abdul Jalal Bin Mohd Tahir, the Student Development Manager of Special Interest Groups.

Mr Jalal said, "We hope that Salsa Encanto will be able to give NP students the variety in dance group choices."

Unlike Dance Sports and NRA Hip Hop Dance Club, which specialises in ballroom dance and hip-hop dance respectively, Salsa Encanto promotes street dancing.

According to Soong Fee, there are three main objectives of Salsa Encanto. Firstly, she wants it to be a group where students can get to know more people with different personalities because salsa is easy to pick up, and is suitable for everyone.

Secondly, she hopes the group will create an avenue for the students to destress. Thirdly, the group would like to dispel misconceptions surrounding salsa.

"Salsa is not just meant for females. There are a lot of males learning salsa, and it actually helps them with their social skills and builds up their confidence," she said.

"Girls seem to be more receptive to salsa, or perhaps the male students are just shy," said Soong Fee, shrugging.

Green Team Bags 3rd Place

BY SYED ARAFAT
syed.tribune@gmail.com

T rue grit and tough training helped the men's volleyball team smash their way into third place at the Polytechnic-ITE (POLITE) games after beating ITE 3-1.

The results are impressive, considering that the Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP) team is made up mostly of new players who are first and second-year students.

The captain, Lim Wee Kian, 19, felt that it was a relatively good performance

"We've improved in terms of manpower and performance this time around.

"We had a chance to make it into the finals ... [b]ut it's been good so far as our players are mostly new recruits," the final-year Business Studies (BS) student said.

He explained that the team's secret to success was nothing more than hard work and a constant effort in their performance. "There wasn't really any other factor besides trainings, training and more training," he said.

He added, "We don't get to train indoors and we're always bitten badly by insects while training at the basketball court."

Ms Leong Cheng Yee, Student Development Manager of the Student Development & Alumni Relations (SDAR) office, and In-Charge of the sport commended the team on their win.



MEN OF BRAWN: NP Men's Volleyball team clinched an unexpected third place. (Picture courtesy of Lim Wee Kian)

"We're looking forward to bringing in better result[s] for the IVP and make it into the top four," she said.

The IVP or Institute-Varsity-Polytechnic Games will be held this December at various tertiary institutions.

Pol-ITE Final Results*

Badminton (M)	5th	Floorball (F)	6th
Badminton (F)	2nd	Squash (M)	2nd
Basketball (M)	2nd	Squash (F)	2nd
Basketball (F)	6th	Tennis (M)	1st
Bowling (M)	1st	Tennis (F)	2nd
Bowling (F)	3rd	Volleyball (M)	3rd
Chinese Chess	2nd	Volleyball (F)	5th
Floorball (M)	4th	Wiqi	3rd

*accurate as of November 16