WEATHER Today's

forecast

Nanjing	21/27 Overcast
Suzhou	22/25 Rainy
Wuxi	22/26 Rainy
Yangzhou	21/27 Overcast
Xuzhou	20/280vercast
Changzhou	22/27 Overcast
Nantong	21/26 Overcast
Lianyungang	20/28 Cloudy
Huai'an	20/28 Cloudy
Yancheng	20/27 Rainy
Zhenjiang	22/27 Overcast
Taizhou	21/27 Overcast
Suqian	20/29 Cloudy

YOG naving

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TALK TO US

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SUBWAY SHOWCASES

Passengers sit in the carriage of a subway train with floors decorated to resemble a basketball court to celebrate the Youth Olympic Games in Nanjing, Jiangsu province, on Tuesday. ALY SONG / REUTERS

Tickets selling fast for closing ceremony

By CANG WEI cangwei@chinadaily.com.cn

If you want to watch the closing ceremony of the Nanjing Youth Olympic Games, you may need to book the tickets very soon.

Zhang Dongxin, executive chief director of the closing ceremony, said the ceremony will be full of passion and surprises and tickets have been selling fast.

"Some of the world's top singers and artists will participate in the ceremony on Aug 28, and some Chinese pop stars, loved by young people, have also been invited to join the show," Zhang said.

"The opening ceremony turned out to be a great success with a strong visual and emotional impact, but we believe the closing ceremony will be even better."

People can purchase tickets on the official website of the YOG, or at box office outlets, including China Post, China Telecom and the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China. Information about the outlets can be found on the YOG's official website.

Tickets for the closing ceremony are selling at 500 yuan (\$81), 1,000 yuan, 1,500 yuan and 2,800 yuan.

Zhang Wen, a volunteer, said she has seen many people turned away from the main stadium because they did not book tickets in advance.

"It's China," Zhang said. "Too many people want to buy tickets before you do."

About 410,000 tickets for various events have been sold so far, the committee said. All the tickets in 64 competitions have sold out, including tennis, sailing, diving and swimming.

"Almost half the total sales of tickets are made by students and families," said Han Dong, assistant director of the marketing department of the YOG's organizing committee. "The YOG is for the youth, so we made a plan to offer more tickets, at affordable prices, to students and families at first.'

The organizing committee said it will work closely with local police to crack down on scalpers and that the public should report to police those seen reselling tickets.

Baron's manuscript on show

By CANG WEI cangwei@chinadaily.com.cn

Visitors to Nanjing's Olympic Museum can expect to see an original manuscript by Baron Pierre de Coubertin, the father of the modern Olympics.

The museum, which occupies an area of 7,896 square meters, is located in the basement of the YOG Cultural Sports Park, to the north of the Olympic village.

The first thing that draws a visitor's attention is Coubertin's yellowing manuscript, of about 100 pages, in which the Frenchman reflected on the history of sports.

Visitors also can take pictures with wax figures of Thomas Bach and Jacques Rogge, the current and the former presidents of the International Olympic Committee.

"Most of the 600 objects and 400 pictures exhibited are donated to the museum and provided by other Olympic museums," said Jiang Qiaoling, deputy chief of Nanjing's Jianye district, where the Olympic museum is located. "The museum will be operated by professional organizations after the YOG."

At the museum, people can also view a wall on which many Olympic torches are displayed, from the 1936 Berlin Olympics to the 2014 Nanjing Youth Olympic Games.

According to the museum, none of the torches are replicas.

The earliest, from the Berlin event, is also the smallest. The biggest is the 1994 Lillehammer Winter Olympics torch, which is about one meter long and is made of metal and wood.

The park will be open to the public after the closing ceremony of the YOG. It will be free during the first six months of operation, then visitors under the age of 18 will still be able to visit without charge while adults will be charged about 30 yuan (\$4.88).

Former Olympians making mark at Games

By XINHUA

Many past Olympians are making their presences felt at the Nanjing Youth Olympic Games. Xu Haifeng, who won China's

first-ever Olympic gold medal at the 1984 Los Angeles Games, is the venue manager for the triathlon and pentathlon at the Nanjing Games.

In men's 3-on-3 basketball, the coach for the Chinese team, Zhang

Yunsong, is a two-time Olympian who played guard and helped China reach the quarterfinals at the Beijing Olympics.

Greco-Roman wrestling legend Maik Bullmann, who won a gold medal at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics and bronze four years later in Atlanta, is a coach for the German wrestling team.

"Wrestling, and sports in general, have always defined my life," said the 47-year-old German. "I was and I still am in the lucky position of making a profession out of my hobby. I was able to step from the mat to the side of the mat smoothly."

In the pentathlon, Australia has a father-son combination in Daniel Esposito, who is coaching his son Max. Daniel Esposito competed at the Los Angeles Games and would have been at Seoul four years later if he hadn't snapped his Achilles tendon.

Daniel's eldest daughter, Chloe, finished seventh at the 2012 London Games and 17-year-old Max is chasing gold in Nanjing after he won the 2013 Oceania Championships.

He is the second member of the family to compete at the Youth Olympic Games, following in the footsteps of another sister, Emily, who competed in the pistol at the Singapore 2010 Games.