

# The Spartan

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[www.sport.monash.edu/news](http://www.sport.monash.edu/news)



## AUG 2009 declared open Lloyd Gordon, Media Assistant

Yesterday the Games were officially declared open when over 4,000 people attended the Opening Ceremony at Seaworld on the Gold Coast. This year marks the biggest AUG ever with over 7,000 student athletes to compete over the next five days of the games.

In attendance at the opening ceremony were ambassadors to the games, Shane Heal and Nikki Hudson who officially declared the games open for 2009. Athletes then enjoyed some relaxation time at Seaworld before play commences today.

The 450 Monash University students make up the largest team competing on the Gold Coast and also have the largest number of Division 1 teams competing at the Games. The student athletes are defending the 'Overall Sporting Champions' title won last year at AUG in Melbourne.

Prior to the opening ceremony, the entire Monash team gathered in preparation for competition today in a private team meeting to prepare the athletes for competition.

Carolyn Kenny, Athlete Support Coordinator welcomed everyone and gave the athletes some motivation, being a staunch St Kilda supporter she commented "now I'm feeling a little bit down after the Saints loss on Saturday, so it's up to you to do what the Saints couldn't!"

Martin Doulton, Director of Sport then wished all the athletes good luck, and reminded them of the Spartan Code as devised by the athletes. Team captains Claire Alomes and Tom Forde also addressed the athletes.

Competition kicks off today, with a number of teams to take to the field from 7am.



**Clare Alomes addresses TeamMONASH™**

## Stand up, take action, and join The Oaktree Foundation! [www.theoaktree.org](http://www.theoaktree.org)

Our purpose is to do something real about poverty. Oaktree is about young people under the age of 26 building the anti-poverty movement. We're young, we're passionate and we're committed to fight the reality of poverty.

## First day of competition Miles Rodriguez, Media Intern

Today is the first day of competition at the Australian University Games 2009. With the weather levelling at an average of 24 degrees and sunny throughout the week, all teams will have the best of conditions to compete in. Here is a summary of Monash's first day of competition and the commencement of the defending of their 2008 overall title:

- Men's basketball against RMIT at 7.30am
- Men's AFL against LTU at 9am
- Women's squash against Melbourne Uni at 10am.
- Women's water polo against LTU at 10.30am
- Mixed netball against University of Sydney at 12pm
- Women's hockey against QUT at 12pm

### Some early results to come through include:

- Handball - Monash 8 defeated Melbourne 3
- Women's basketball 39 def LaTrobe 18
- Men's hockey Monash 4 def Macquarie 0

## Run Melbourne Marathon with TeamMONASH™

It's not too late to register to run the Melbourne Marathon as part of TeamMONASH™. Run or walk the 5km event, stretch yourself with the 10km or half marathon, or complete that lifelong ambition to run a full length marathon! All races finish on the hallowed turf of the MCG.  
[www.sport.monash.edu/events](http://www.sport.monash.edu/events)