



AU
Edge

With AU President
Tom Moore

Welcome (back) to York University. As the President of the Athletic Union, it is my job to tell you everything there is to know about sport at University. I haven't got nearly enough space for everything that there is to know so I'll start with the most important things. Firstly, the ducks are all evil, apart from Trevor - he's the golden one. He gets around quite a lot so you'll soon become friends.

As for the sport itself, last year the AU had over 3000 members, which means that almost a third of students were members. Partly this is because the Athletic Union has a lot more to offer than the traditional sports such as football, hockey, rugby and rowing.

Whether you are a fresher or a returning student, now is the time to get involved with a whole range of sports. We have no less than 58 sport clubs that range from the traditional to the obscure and every one of them will be more than willing to show you what they do, and how much fun they have doing it.

If you're thinking 'I'm not good enough to play university sport,' that really is no excuse! All clubs encourage people of all abilities to get involved and will answer any questions you might have.

Another option to those who prefer sport on a much more social basis is the Deloitte inter-college sport championship. High level University sportspersons are banned from this competition and therefore it offers a second tier to University sport. College sport is coordinated by your College sport reps so watch out for upcoming opportunities and events.

Even if you do not get involved in playing sport the AU still has something to offer. The AU provides non-playing opportunities and runs a sports volunteer project, and first aid courses as well as generously subsidising coaching awards.

All that's left for me to say is that if you have any questions at all, please feel free to call into the AU office or check out our website at www.yusu.org/au. Also make sure that you check out the Sports Centre at the YUSU fair on Saturday Week 1 where you will see what University sport is really all about. It is no lie to say that your three years at university are the best time of your life and you can and should do everything possible to make it an unforgettable experience.

Minstermen start brightly

By Ben Masters
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

FRUSTRATING, exciting and inconsistent: York City's start to the 2006/2007 Nationwide Conference season can be said to have encompassed all four of these adjectives for the club's fans, many of whom are still incredulous that their side is competing one rung below that of the Football League.

But in York City's quest to regain their League status, a feeling of deja-vu lingers. An opening day goalless draw, this time against Exeter City, mirrored the start to last season and a subsequent run of four consecutive victories this campaign was halted only by a disappointing goalless draw at home to relegation favourites Stafford Rangers. Again this year Billy McEwan's side have threatened to challenge the League leaders, this time Oxford United, only to fall back into the familiar challenge for the play-offs.

Indeed it appears that



Despite a few slip ups, such as losing to Oxford, York City have made an impressive start to this season

any promotion for City will have to be through the play-offs as Oxford United have sprinted away with an eight point lead at the top of the Conference. With veteran manager Jim Smith, and facilities and a stadium to match many Championship sides, with attendances in excess of 6,000, it seems to be a case of when, rather than if, Oxford United regain their League status as Conference champions.

But even if City boss Billy McEwan cannot claim to match the resources of the League leaders, the Scot has significantly strengthened his squad over the summer. Talented 29 year old goalkeeper Tom Evans arrived from Scunthorpe to replace the erratic Chris

Porter, and this signing has proved to be a real success. Evans has firmly established himself as a favourite with the York City faithful, although his sending off during the early stages of a surprising 3-0 away defeat at Crawley can be seen as the beginning of the current stuttering nature of the club's form. Further signings such as Steve Bowey and Martyn Woolford have added to a squad that McEwan himself has admitted was short on quality last season.

However the main playing attraction at Kit-Kat Crescent is once again the sight of Clayton Donaldson. City's gangly striker had by September's end chipped in with six

League goals and his pace will no doubt continue to trouble defences. Shorn of last season's top scorer Andy Bishop though, whose brace for new club Bury against Sunderland in the Carling Cup hastened Niall Quinn's decision to sack himself, City have on occasions appeared a little one dimensional. This hasn't been aided by new signing Craig Farrell's sluggish adjustment to his new surroundings, although McEwan will hope that Farrell's first goal for the club in the 2-2 draw with Southport will kick-start the striker's form.

October should provide the Minstermen with more opportunities to push on further. Away trips to Northwich Victoria, St

Albans City and Tamworth should be expected to yield maximum points, whilst the visits of Aldershot and Cambridge United are two fixtures of the sort that City will be looking to be winning consistently if they are to improve on last season's eighth place finish.

The familiar story of a York City side confidently striding a few paces forward only to be pegged back by the unexpected dropping of points has continued this year. However, the steady improvement of the side under McEwan is another recurring theme and City fans can wait in expectation rather than hope for a play-off place by the time this Conference season draws to a close.

Nationwide Conference Current standings

	pld	pts
01. Oxford Utd	14	36
02. Dag & Red	14	30
03. Weymouth	14	27
04. York City	14	27
05. Burton A	14	25
06. Exeter	14	24
07. Gravesend	14	24
08. Aldershot	14	22

The Quick Crossword

Wednesday October 11, set by Cornius

Across

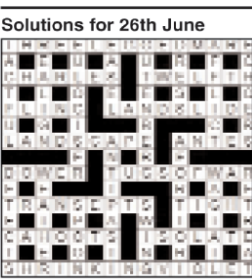
- 5... 4... 3... 2... 1...(9)
- Old fashioned clothing (7)
- Vibratory sound (5)
- What you pick your luggage off at an airport (8)
- At the beginning of stories, does this get up on time? (4)
- Idle gossip; light conversation (6)
- ___ Of a Down (6)
- A musical work (4)
- approach; result of ursine wrong footing (4,4)
- For him, getting shot is part of the job description (5)
- Like Paul Daniels or David Copperfield (7)

- One Across' possibly crucial decider (9)

Down

- Toffs belong in this class (5)
- Inflictor of pain (10)
- More greasy (6)
- What this publication has a lot of (4)
- Used to keep your tresses in place (7)
- One Across' number queen, Carol ___ (9)
- One of two options Carol (Seven Down) might give you (9)
- H (8)
- Executor of the will (7)
- What beefeaters prefer to be called (6)
- Wilde; vied for by

- Twenty-one Across (5)
- Clapton or Cantona (4)



Stuck? Solutions for this edition's Quick Crossword can be found on our website at <http://www.nouse.com/crossword> at the start of Week 2 (Monday, 17th October). A full solution crossword will also be printed in the next edition

