

The Spartan

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www.sport.monash.edu/news



The 450 TeamMONASH™ warriors commence AUG

Martin Doulton, Director of Sport

On behalf of the Vice Chancellor and President of Monash University Professor Ed Byrne, I wish to welcome TeamMONASH™ to the 2009 Australian University Games on the Gold Coast.

The Games officially commence tonight with the opening ceremony taking place at Seaworld on the Gold Coast. Our 450 participating Monash University students make up the largest team competing in the Games and we are eager to replicate last year's effort in Melbourne, being declared Overall Sporting Champions.

Monash is proud to also have the largest number of Division 1 teams at this year's Games but we have not been resting on our laurels of past successes.

For instance in the leadup to AUG, a trade marking process for TeamMONASH™ at the University games was embarked upon and various themes were raised. One that gained traction was the notion that the TeamMONASH™ AUG team were like the 300 Spartans that so nobly defended their country from the Xerxes hordes in 480BC, and so the Spartan Code was formed. Like the Spartans TeamMONASH™ is hopelessly outnumbered in comparison to the 7,000 other athletes attempting to take our titles, but again like the Spartans the courage of the students in accepting the challenge of defending Monash's honour is without exception. As the AUG trade marking process took place, what also came to the fore was the desire by Monash participants to defend our title through honourable means.

So for the first time ever since Monash University sports teams have taken the field of battle the entire 2009 Monash University AUG cohort has agreed to abide by, support and staunchly defend the Spartan Code, of which you will read more about in this newsletter.

Good luck to the 450 who are representing Monash University at the 2009 Australian University Games. May your endeavors on the field of battle bring to the University the spoils of Victory but may your behavior in wearing the University shield bring great credit to those who are back on campus. **GO MONASH!**

Monash captains announced

Miles Rodriquez, Media Intern

Congratulations to the two captains of the 2009 Monash Australian University Games team. Clare Alomes and Tom Forde will be leading the team of 450 students with the newly established 'Spartan Code' in mind.

Both Clare and Tom act as team manager and player for their chosen teams. Clare is an integral member of the women's water polo team while Tom is an important player in the men's basketball team.

Tom believes the new 'Spartan Code' is a positive move but is wary of its effectiveness. 'You can implement anything you like, but as with any changes, some will be responsive to it, others will disregard it,' he said.

Clare praised the fact that the University let the players decide on a trademark rather than forcing one upon the players. 'It's great because we're measuring ourselves against our own standards as opposed to someone else's,' she said.

Both possess invaluable experience at AUG level which will be key in helping them lead Monash to its second successive AUG victory.



Clare Alomes



Tom Forde

From The Editor

Lloyd Gordon, Media Assistant

Welcome to the first edition of The Spartan, the newsletter that will tell the story of TeamMONASH™ at the Australian University Games on the Gold Coast, 2009.

In this publication we will include updated results from each day of competition, feature articles on a range of participating teams and integral players as well as daily trivia, player profiling and general information for both competing and non-competing members.

You will also be able to follow the progress of TeamMONASH™ online, please visit:
www.sport.monash.edu/news
www.sport.monash.edu/aug

We will also be updating our Facebook and Twitter pages with all the latest results and news so check back regularly!

For all Monash University teams, please send through your results to 0466 280 906. Also we would welcome any photo contributions from AUG to be sent through to:
feedback@sport.monash.edu.au

We will publish The Spartan at 10am every day of the Games.

The Spartan Code

Miles Rodriquez, Media Intern

Earlier in the year, Monash's AUG team managers came together to form the Spartan Code for this week's games. The code, which includes three key words which surmise the attitude of Monash in this year's competition and likening it to the ancient Spartans of 480BC, has been signed by every player representing the University.

The codes three behaviours were defined as:

Respectful - all players will show respect for Monash, the other participating Universities and all officials;

Committed - the players have vowed to concentrate on their individual sport for the week, disregarding the 'party' aspect of the week;

United - all Monash teams will support their own team as well as teammates in other sports, teams will not accept individuals who detract from the team.

With these three words in mind, the team managers then worked with their teams to add their own fourth word to individualise the document for their particular sport. Words such as Professional, Fun and Accountable have been developed by teams and will be used, along with the rest of the code, as the focus for AUG 2009.

Picture highlights AUG 2008



A finely placed shot



Women's AFL



A fast start off the blocks



Monash v Melbourne

The Oaktree Foundation

The Oaktree Foundation is once again proud to be in partnership with Monash at this year's Australian University Games. Oaktree creates education opportunities for nearly 15000 students in schools in six different countries, ranging from childhood through to University study.

Monash would like to create awareness for two projects the foundation is running: the 'Collaboration 4 Change' to create positive social change in the community through music, and 'Schools 4 Schools' which partners Australian schools with schools in developing communities across the world to tackle the causes of issues facing the developing world.

Athletes can purchase the Oaktree dogtags during the Games to support these causes.

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