



**NUR EKMAL BUHARY**

# Masum eye on carnival

THE annual games carnival of the Malaysian University Sports Council (Masum) will be the stage to select Malaysian athletes to the Asean University Games (AUG) in Kuala Lumpur in December.

The carnival, to be held at two venues - Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) and Universiti Malaya (UM) has attracted 20 institutions of higher learning.

A total of 21 sports will be organised during the carnival on May 13-28.

UM will host 10 sports from May 13-18 with women's futsal making its debut. The other sports are women's hockey, silat, tenpin bowling, lawn bowl, cricket, kayak, rowing and handball.

UMS however will kick off the second phase of the carnival from May 21-28. A total of eleven sports will be contested, namely netball, basketball, volleyball, chess, futsal (men), table tennis, taekwondo, rugby, archery and golf.

The Masum chairman of the games' promotion and sponsorship



committee, Nur Ekmal Buhary said that student athletes who had been selected in a talent identification programme since late last year, will be put to the test.

"We have identified 80% of those with the potential to represent Masum in the Asean Varsity Games.

"Sixty percent are from Masum, 20% are state athletes while the remainder are national athletes sponsored by the National Sports Council.

"At this point we would like to see how far they have improved. It is their chance to show if they have improved on their talent or declined."

Masum will be sending a delegation to the Sukma Games this month to gain some insights into organization.

Athletes short-listed during the Masum carnival will go into centralised training in June in preparation for the AUG.