

11th March 2003

Motorsport students speed into rallying

Motorsports students at the University of Central Lancashire are set to become the first student-only team to enter the 2003 Peugeot 205 Challenge Championship.

With a number of Formula Ford trophies already lined up, the team have now turned their attention to rallying and have set their sights high by entering the largest single-make championship in the world.

And it won't just be the fuel in the car which keeps them going as Anderton's Butchers of Longridge are supplying bacon and sausages to the rally team as a means of sponsorship.

The 205 Challenge consists of seven events throughout the year, with the first on Sunday 13th April at Oakington near Cambridge. Team members have built and prepared a championship specification Peugeot 205 1.6 GTi, and are feeling confident about the challenge.

Driver and final year student Daniel Boardman, from Ribchester, says: "We are all really excited about the 205 championship and we think we stand a good chance at getting ourselves noticed."

The car has been prepared in the University workshops, with most of the work being done by first year motorsport engineering students. "There is so much work to do behind the scenes to prepare for an event like this and it really is a wonderful opportunity for students to become closely involved in a real-life event," says Daniel.

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“By the season’s end, they will have experienced the equivalent of running a small business, built their team into a marketing brand and faced the highest levels of self development through the emotional highs and lows that are synonymous with such a challenging and rewarding sport.”

Students from Blackpool and the Fylde College have also become involved as they have painted the car and have offered to repair it during the season.

The students are currently financing most of the rally themselves, although they have secured some sponsorship and would love to hear from anyone else who might be interested in getting involved. Sponsoring the team offers a number of benefits including media coverage, national exposure through company logos on team vehicles and features on the international website.

For further details, contact Daniel Boardman on 07970 533383.

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Photo opportunity:

The rally car, driver Daniel Boardman and the rest of the team will be available for photographs at the Wharf Building, University of Central Lancashire, Preston, from 2pm Wednesday 12th March, all day Thursday 13th and up to 1pm on Friday 14th March. Please contact Daniel Boardman on 07970 533383.

Note to editors:

Current sponsors of the UCLAN rally team include: University of Central Lancashire; Netsource IT Recruitment, Manchester; Anderton Butchers of Longridge; Grange Lane Garage, Accrington; Lancashire Salvage, Blackburn; Blackpool and The Fylde College; Magnex Exhausts; Rochdale Breakers; EPM Technology, Leicestershire; and Luke Harnesses, East Sussex