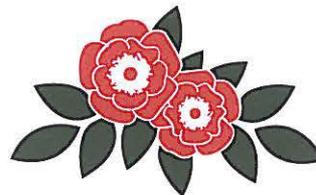


NEWS RELEASE

UNIVERSITY
— OF CENTRAL —
LANCASHIRE



Star-struck Robbie is a shining example

A Bolton man with stars in his eyes has overcome his dyslexia to achieve a degree in Contemporary Performing Arts from the University of Central Lancashire.

Robbie Buchanan, 21, a former pupil of Withens School and Bolton College, graduates from the University on Thursday 11th July with an honours degree and a wealth of experience under his belt.

As well as his studies, for which he needed support because of his dyslexia, Robbie has spent time mentoring other young people with learning difficulties. Through the University's Student Mentoring Scheme, Robbie has visited several high schools in the Preston area to support and encourage other young pupils with dyslexia.

"I want to be able to inspire others with dyslexia to achieve what I have achieved," he says. "It has been a battle but, with the support of the University and through my own determination, it is a battle I have won."

Robbie has been writing and performing his own plays since he was at primary school and still dreams of seeing his work performed one day in the West End. In the meantime he has signed up for a teacher training course at Bolton College and will continue to write his own material and to be involved in local theatre groups.

-ends-

10th July 2002

nr075kjf

Notes to editors:

Photo attached – Robbie Buchanan at his degree ceremony

For further details please contact Pamela Culley on Preston 01772 892486.