

57 UMS athletes vow to do better

By **Vitalis G Bingkasan**

KOTA KINABALU: The Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) Contingent are aiming to improve their performance at the 35th University Staff Sports Meet 2010 at USM Pulau Pinang.

According UMS Sports Unit chief Mohd Asyraaf Fong, the contingent will be taking part in women's volleyball, athletics, darts and football events.

"UMS currently are volleyball title holders for four years running since 2006.

"We hope to defend the title once again this year.

"We will also try to at least maintain or better still,

improve our on our third placing in darts last year and will try to hunt for more medals in the track and field events.

"We won five gold, four silver and four bronze medals last year.

"This is also the case for football. We hope to reach the finals this time," said Asyraaf when contacted yesterday.

UMS' best achievement in football was placing third in 1999, 2003, 2005, 2006 and 2008, while they only reached the quarterfinals last year.

Universiti Malaysia Perlis (Unimap) are football defending champions, winning two years in a row

since 2008.

The defending champions are also the favourites this year as their line-up comprises mostly Malaysia League players from Perlis and Kedah.

"We (UMS) have made every possible preparation for this meet and will go to Pulau Pinang with strong fighting spirit to improve on our overall performance or at least to maintain our achievement," said Asyraaf, adding that 57 athletes would represent UMS.

The meet is scheduled to start today while the launching ceremony was held last night at USM Pulau Pinang Stadium.