

PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE OF ISSUE: Monday 29 MARCH 2010

STUDENT SELECTED FOR PARALYMPIC TEAM DEVELOPMENT

Yeovil College is delighted to announce that BNC Sport student Tom Minchington has been selected to train with the England Development Squad for the 2012 Paralympics.

Tom (17) of Yeovil was selected from 450 initial applicants to take part in the Paralympics 2012 GB identification day held at Brunel University, London. After tryouts in six different sports, he was spotted by coaches for his ability in football.

Tom, who has Cerebral Palsy, has been asked to join the England CP Development squad and is one of just three players on trial.

Tom said *"I'm absolutely stunned and amazed by what's happened. I've been playing sport at this level for less than a year and I'd not played football properly before the trials. I'm a big Yeovil Town Supporter though – I'm down there every week!"*

Tom is a Sport student at Yeovil College and is a former student of Preston School. He has a strong record in athletics and has represented the South West at the UK School games, where he won bronze in the 200 metres. He also took silver for the 100 metres and bronze for the ambient 200 metres at the nationals.

Sport lecturer Matt Hann said *"It's brilliant that Tom's potential as a sportsperson has been recognised. It's been a rapid rise in profile, but the attention he's getting is fantastic. Everyone at Yeovil College is supporting him all the way."*

Tom will continue to train with the Football teams at Yeovil College before returning to the England CP Development squad training camp in April.

... ENDS

Notes to Editors

All press enquiries to Eileen Furze, Marketing Officer t: (01935) 845322 e: eileen.furze@yeovil.ac.uk
www.yeovil.ac.uk