# Profile: Soccer star Magic Mac

By Kim Llewellyn

Magic Mac is a marked man. Mac Musaby, this year's Most Valuable Player at the soccer Canadian Conference in Waterloo, is recognized by opposing team members as the man to beat out and, if possible, annihilate.

"They send their big bad players after me," said Musaby in his soft Turkish accent when he was interviewed recently.

Invariably this has caused a few problems for the "Turkish Delight" of Yeomen soccer. Although Musaby is getting used to playing with black eyes and pulled muscles it is the broken ankles and fractured skull he takes exception to.

"An injury like a broken ankle really affects your quality of play," says Musaby. "In order to come back you must have double determination. That's the reason I do extra work besides the team workouts."

Musaby goes through running and soccer skill drills on his own time in soccer season before showing up for the gruelling Yeomen practice at 5 pm each night. Off-season Musaby participates in a variety of other sports, primarily basketball, to stay fit.

According to Musaby there are three reasons why York went all the way to the top this year in soccer. "There was a spirit of friendship we never had before," he said. "In the past the superstars played for themselves."

He cites the skill of first year coach Eric Willis and a greater emphasis put on sports like soccer and rugger by the university as the two other reasons.

In his natuve Turkey he played for the national junior soccer team. His family's migration to Canada prevented his playing for a professional Turkish team for which he was second draft choice. For all of his five Canadian summers Musaby has played Toronto District socceer.

When recruiting for the Ontario Selects (the province's representative team) was open to all nationalities Musaby played for Ontario. Since 1975 membership of the team is limited to those eligible to play for Canada's national team (ie Canadian citizens).

From 1973 to 1976, when Musaby was playing centre forward for York, he was the top Ontario University Athletic Association scorer. Musaby has moved back to the more defensive centre field but every year is still challenging the leading scorer.

This year Musaby has won top honours nationally receiving the covetted Most Valuable Player Award at the Canadian Interuniversity Athletic Association-finals last fall.

"His soccer skills are consummate," said Norm Crandles, assistant coach of the Yeomen soccer team. "His ball control is artistry. He has a sense about the game. As an athlete he is very mature and I suppose that has to do with his experience on the international level. His skill level is at such a calibre that he has maximized the skills of players of lesser ability. Because of his deportment on and off the field, his skill level and the fact that he is in his final year he would make an ideal candidate for athlete of the year.'

Musaby, a fourth year political science and economics major, is "as equally intense about sports as he is about politics," according to Crandles.

"He is a very concerned human being in the global sense and very knowledgable on current issues."

Part of Musaby's interest in politics centres around student concerns.

"Students should organize themselves, especially in these times of cutbacks, student unemployment



Mac Musaby in flight: will he be chosen York's Athlete of the Year?

and the reduction of access to student loans," says Musaby. "They should get involved in the issues that directly affect their lives and defend their interests from a political point of view."

What does the future hold for Magic Mac? Hopefully a political science teaching position at the university level in Turkey. As for his sports career, the future is indefinite

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