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## **PRESS RELEASE**

**EMBARGO: for immediate release**

### **TITLE: Oxford continue domination at the UPC Women's Eight-ball Championships**

Riley's, Coventry was the scene as Oxford University 1st continue to set the standard in the UPC Women's Team Championship overcoming a spirited University of Warwick 1st in the final. Oxford captain Nicki Hoskins became the first lady to win the Billiards Boutique Individual Championship twice as she defeated Katie Horsfield from University of York in a somewhat one-sided final.

Oxford 1st, last year's winners and pre-tournament favourites, came through Group A with maximum points and were joined in the quarter-finals by Warwick 1st and local varsity rivals Cambridge University. Oxford 2nd demonstrated the continued strength in depth at the university by winning Group B as York 1st also booked their quarter-final spot by coming second. Plymouth 1st emerged as potential candidates to dethrone Oxford as they sailed through undefeated in Group C with Durham 1st qualifying in second place with some dominating performances. Edge Hill 2nd won the play-off to take the last remaining spot by edging out Plymouth 2nd in a nail-biting decider.

The play-off may have taken too much out of Edge Hill 2nd as Oxford 1st ended their campaign in a one-sided quarter-final. Cambridge 1st began to demonstrate signs of their competitive experience ending Plymouth 1st's title hopes. York 1st progressed at the expense of Durham 1st and Warwick 1st held their nerve in the decider to edge out Oxford 2nd.

In to the semi-finals, and Warwick 1st continued to grow with a solid performance to get the better of Cambridge 1st. In the other, Oxford 1st made it to their fourth consecutive final but York 1st will be reflective on defeat as they pushed them all the way.

The field in the championship was widely regarded as the strongest ever as Oxford 1st were aware that they had faced their most difficult campaign to date. The early running proved quite even and Warwick 1st were sensing

victory. In the end, the experience of Oxford 1st proved telling as Jane Carpenter dispatched the Championship winning 8-ball.

In the Billiards Boutique Individual Championship, Nicki Hoskins retained her crown as she defeated Katie Horsfield (York 1st) to complete an Oxford double for the second year in a row.

Attention now switches to the Student Eight-ball Pool Home Internationals on 18-19 April 2008 at Glasgow.

7 April 2008

**For further information:**

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**Notes to editors:**

The Universities Pool Council (UPC) is the governing body for pool at higher education level in the United Kingdom. It is recognised by the British Universities Sports Association (BUSA), Scottish University Sport (SUS) and the English Pool Association (EPA).

The UPC organises national nine-ball, eight-ball and women's eight-ball championships for teams and individuals. The UPC also organises the Student Home Internationals representative event.