KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) tennis darling Shirley Ling Shio Ling is heading to Kazan, Russia for the 27th World University Summer Games (Universiade).

The UMS Sportswoman for 2013 is the varsity's only athlete that made it into the national contingent for the Games that gets underway from July 6 to 17.

Shirley, who hails from Sibu, Sarawak, has been entered for the singles as well as doubles event.

For the record, tennis is one of the 13 compulsory sports for the Games with the others being athletics, basketball, fencing, football, artistic gymnastics, rhythmic gymnastics, judo, swimming, diving, water polo, table tennis and volleyball.

Besides the 13 compulsory sports, the about two-week long sporting carnival also features 14 other sporting disciplines.

Shirley, who is a first year Sports Science student at the varsity's School of Social Development and Education, is aiming to be among the medal winners.

A glance at her sporting background, Shirley has represented Malaysia to the ITF Under-14 tournament in Myanmar.

She was also part of the Sarawak contingent during the Sukma 2008 and 2010.

Shirley also represented Sarawak Schools Sports Council at the National Schools Sports Council Championship from 2002 to 2009.

Among her achievements were winning a silver medal for UMS at the Institution of Higher Learning Games (SUKIPT) hosted by Universiti Putra Malaysia last year.

She was also part of the national team that won silver at the Indonesia-Malaysia Games in Bandung, Indonesia last May.

For the record, the Kazan edition of the Games will bring together more than 10,000 people from 162 countries.

ON A MISSION IMPOSSIBLE TRIP ... Shirley is the sole representative from UMS.