

Great enthusiasm over Sask. Special Olympics



Athlete Georges Antonluk of Estevan (Zone 1) was given the honor of lighting the flame during the official opening of the Saskatchewan Special Olympics Saturday afternoon at the Comprehensive School. Assisting him is volunteer Ron Reinhart. Antonluk will be competing in the national event next month in Ottawa.

The Saskatchewan Special Olympics, which concluded in Estevan on the weekend, was described by organizers as "very successful." About 350 participants from throughout the province competed in a variety of events.

Games chairman Ed Brittin said many favorable comments were made by the competing zones, expressing how pleased they were with the new format.

Not all the events were held in Estevan. Bowling activities took place at the Super Bowl in Weyburn and camping activities at Kenosee Lake. Swimming and the track and field events were held in Estevan.

The Special Olympics constitutes a physical fitness program for the mentally retarded in the province, involving mentally handicapped persons in a wide variety of sports and recreation.

The camping experience for the competitors was a "first" as in previous olympics there were only track and field events. While some of the participants

were competing in Weyburn others took part in canoeing, paddleboats, tug-o-war, swimming, movies and cookouts at Kenosee.

In addition to participating in the games, Brittin said the athletes also received a tour of Estevan, Boundary Dam and the coal mines.

He estimated some 250 people volunteered their services during the three-day event. One of the highlights of the Olympics, said Brittin, was to have the volunteers meet the athletes. He said many became "caught up" in the spirit of the games. He reported that a bus driver for a bus company from Regina was so enthused that he volunteered his name to help with the handicapped in Regina.

Brittin said all the events were well organized, particularly the track and field event at the Comprehensive school. A majority of the officials who volunteered their services also worked at the 1980 Saskatchewan Summer Games which were held in Estevan in July.

Ron Yanko, sports chairman, said this was his sixth Special Olympics and it was one of the best that he has attended. Compared to previous meets, the track and field portion of the Olympics was completed in the fast time, 2 1/4 hours.

It was a well run meet with more than 100 volunteers for the track and field portion, said Yanko. Although many of the officials were experienced, others got to know in a hurry what to do. A big plus, he said, was that the officials knew what to do and were not afraid to participate with the athletes.

The athletes were divided into six divisions with the sixth one being a new one. It was for athletes 30 years of age and over.

It helped cut down the size of the groups, said Yanko, and it gave the older ones an opportunity to compete against others in their own age group. There was a good response from the 30 and over athletes as they were well spirited and cheered each other on.

The emphasis is on participating said Yanko. Winning or losing isn't important. They like to receive ribbons and each one does receive one for participating. As for trophies, they don't think about that.

An official opening ceremony took place at the bowling competition Thursday with Weyburn mayor Isabelle Butters throwing the first ball.

Another official opening was held prior to the track and field events Saturday. Georges Antonluk of Estevan, representing Zone 1, had the honor of lighting the flame and John Taggart of Estevan had the honor of raising the Special Olympic flag.

Four Estevan athletes were selected to compete in the national competition scheduled for Ottawa next month. They are Antonluk, Heather Watson, Rita Gates and Doug Pringlemeire.

Saturday night an awards banquet was held and another "first" of the games was that entertainment was provided by the athletes. They were vocalist

Louis Faber of Carlyle and a rhythm band of pupils of the Glen McGuire School at Oxbow.

Sunday's activities included breakfast at Rotary Park, and ecumenical church service and guided tours.

Zone 8 (Melfort-Prince Albert) collected 306 points to finish on top followed by Zone 2 (Regina) with 293, Zone 6 (Saskatoon) with 250, Zone 1 (Estevan-Weyburn) with 238 points, Zone 3 (Moose Jaw-Assiniboia-Swift Current) with 206, Zone 4 (Melville-Yorkton) with 187, Zone 7 (North Battleford-Lloydminster) with 154 and 5 (Humboldt-Watrous-Outlook) with 25 points.

Only four zones competed in the swimming competition and they finished in this order -2, 6, 1 and 8. Zone 2 collected 35 points, zone 6 with 16, zone 1 with eight and zone eight with two.

In the bowling, the zones finished in this order -8, 1, 4, 2, 3, 7, 6 and five. In track and field, zone 8 finished on top with 244 points

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School board committees chosen

Final plans for Hillcrest addition

Board members of the Estevan School Division No. 95 viewed the final plans for the Hillcrest school addition, during Monday evening's board meeting. On hand to present the final plans was Dennis Wagner of Keith Consulting Engineers in Regina.

The board checked the plans over carefully and made a number of changes which will be incorporated into the plans and thus the structure itself. Some of these

changes involved the saving of considerable money over what had been suggested by Keith in the blueprints, while in other cases, it was a matter of making changes to ensure longer life and easier maintenance.

The board will be holding another meeting, at 5 p.m. on June 30 to consider the tenders received for repairs to the Westview school roof.

tion to repair several pianos within the Estevan school system.

The board also authorized the signing of an agreement with the rural board and the separate school board with regards to the operation of Estevan Comprehensive School. Only two changes were noted in the agreement, those being the calculation of tuition fees for ECS and the policy that the ECS board will

Appointments to various board committees were finalized as follows:

Chairman-Gordon Knight; Deputy chairman-Ron Galloway; Finance-Ron Galloway and R.V. McDonald; Building-Gordon Knight and Terry Scott; staff relations-Ron Galloway and Vera Ball; Teachers local agreement (negotiations) committee-Terry Scott and Gordon Knight; Negotiating team (SEIU), Ron Galloway and Terry Scott.

Vera Ball; ECS board representatives- Vera Ball, Gordon Knight, Ron Galloway and R.V. McDonald; Signing authorities-Gordon Knight, Ron Galloway and Terry Scott; Estevan National Exhibition Board representative-R.V. McDonald.

Monday evening's meeting closed with the new members (Terry Scott and Vera Ball) undergoing what Secretary Moskal called a "mini-course" to fami-