

Torch run heads to Regina

B 6317
Eighty kilometers of a long distance to travel by foot, but on June 11 more than 75 people chose to run to Regina.

The sixth annual Law Enforcement Torch Run, a fundraiser for Special Olympics, reversed its course this year. This brought runners from Yorkton to Fort Qu'Appelle for the local leg of the province-wide run, and participants from Regina joined Fort runners to bring the run to Regina.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run, which was initiated in the United States in 1981, crept to Canada in 1987 when the Ontario Asso-

ciation of Chiefs of Police instituted a Torch Run Relay for Special Olympics athletes. A year later the program expanded into the prairie region, and is now promoted throughout the world.

The Saskatchewan Special Olympics ensures that "all mentally handicapped residents . . . can experience the benefits of participation in sports." It was hosted by Regina June 11 to 13 and the run wrapped up Friday evening after accumulating the goal of \$70,000.

The Torch Run, as its name indicates, is open to those in enforcement-related po-

sitions. This year participants from RCMP, City Police, Saskatchewan Justice System, Correction Services, Highway Traffic Board, Customs and others joined the notable endeavor.

Constable Tim Van Os, area co-ordinator for the event, was one of several local runners from the Fort Qu'Appelle RCMP detachment. He was joined by Constables Steve Wade, Gord Stuart, Doug Forsyth and Tim Phillips (of Balcarres RCMP), with Corporals Sid Bowles and Al Ruud of Fort Qu'Appelle providing a safety escort.