



Leader-Post photo by Robert Watson

Special Olympics athletes Annette Jackson and Chris McCubbin light flame

Torch run opens games

Saskatchewan law officers finished their 640-kilometre province-wide torch run for the Special Olympics Friday night, arriving at Douglas Park just in time for the provincial games' opening ceremony.

More than 600 RCMP, correctional services, Department of Parks and Renewable Resources and municipal police officers raised \$45,000 in the run which began Monday in

Estevan and Prince Albert.

"It's the climax of the week," said Rob Dean, a constable with the Regina Police Service, who was the last officer to carry the torch. "Now we can go back and rest."

Law enforcement officers in all provinces participated in relays. The Saskatchewan runners raised money through donations and an "adopt-a-cop" pledging program.

Last year, 450 runners raised \$32,000.

Special Olympics is a program of physical recreation and competitive sport for mentally handicapped people. Competitive games take place every four years. The provincial competition in Regina runs until Sunday. The national Special Olympics start July 10 in Vancouver.