

## TORCH RUN

Saskatoon athletes **Jennifer Williams**, **Tyler Gilbert** and **John Wickett** are not the only local heroes who'll participate at the World Special Olympics in Austria next month.

Constable **Kevin Lauscher**, a 14-year member of the city police, will be among 52 law enforcement officers from around the world in a torch run through three European countries. The event occurs in the two weeks leading up to the Games, which begin March 21.

The Special Olympics torch runs are exclusive to law enforcement officers and are a major source of funding for the athletic competitions for people with disabilities. All money raised in the relays goes directly to the competition. Any administration costs of the torch runs are covered by other sponsors.

In 1992, the runs raised more than \$4



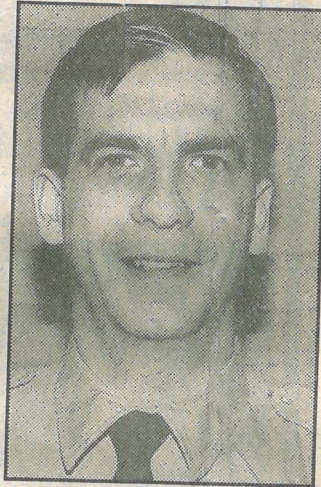
By **Betty Ann Adam**

million worldwide. The Austrian run however, is not a fundraiser. It's simply a moment in the spotlight for the torch runners — Special Olympics organizers' way of saying thanks.

Lauscher has run in four torch relays in Saskatchewan, each time logging at least 20 kilometres in one- to four-kilometre stints. The annual provincial relays include more law enforcement officers than just city police and RCMP: prison guards, conservation officers, and university security guards also join in.

When he and four colleagues applied for the international run last fall they didn't know if they'd be selected, but knew they couldn't wait for confirmation before beginning to train.

Lauscher runs the 5.3 kilometres to and



Const. **Kevin Lauscher**

from work each day, uses lunch hours to lift weights and use the rowing machine, and then runs another 10 kilometres on Sunday. Saturday is his one day free of training obligations.

The Austrian run will be quite different from the local ones, Lauscher said. Participants will hit the pavement for 14 days, covering a much longer distance — 1,144 kilometres. He expects to run 16 to 20 kilometres per day.

Lauscher is especially eager to begin his journey since he has never travelled abroad. Once arriving in Salzburg, Austria, he'll join other runners who will be taken to Trieste, Italy, where they'll

begin the run on March 7. They'll jog through Italy, southern Austria, Germany and back to Austria, ending in Schlading where they'll run en masse into the stadium during opening ceremonies of the World Special Olympics. They'll repeat the flame lighting ceremony in Salzburg the next day.

## WINNING THESIS

A look at the social justice work that women do as part of their spirituality is the subject of **Rev. Charlotte Caron's** doctoral thesis. The paper, called *To Make and Make Again: Feminist Ritual Theology* has won the Crossroads Women's Study Award. As one of two winners, the thesis will be published by Crossroads Press of New York.

Research for the thesis included many interviews with women, especially with members of the Saskatchewan Christian Feminist Network and with members of the Portland, Maine, feminist spiritual community.

The chance to share the results of her work with those and other readers is especially gratifying for Caron, a professor of pastoral theology at St. Andrew's College.

"It's one thing to write a thesis and have it sit on the shelf forever, but to have it available to many is the most exciting part," she said.

The book, in which she examines things which are important and meaningful in women's lives and their ways of speaking about the things they value, should be in Saskatoon book stores by summer.